



THE HEALTH OF

BLACKPOOL

1959

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLACKPOOL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1959

BY

DAVID W. WAUCHOB

M.B., B.CH. D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

and

Principal School Medical Officer

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLACKPOOL HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As constituted 31st December, 1959)

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, ALDERMAN A. E. MACHIN, J.P.

Council Members on the nomination of the General Purposes Committee :

Chairman :

Alderman J. H. HESSEY, J.P.

Ald. R. BRIERLEY, J.P.

Ald. J. PARKER, J.P.

Ald. W. STEVENSON.

Coun. W. BRIGGS.

Coun. W. H. DUGDALE, J.P.

Coun. J. S. LEIGH.

Coun. K. MASSEY.

Coun. J. MYERSCOUGH.

Coun. J. S. RICHARDSON, J.P.

Coun. Mrs. J. ROBINSON, J.P.

Coun. L. F. SHARPE.

Coun. J. WALSH.

Coun. A. E. WALTON.

Coun. A. WOOD.

2 Council Members on nomination of Education Committee :—

Ald. E. SMITH.

Coun. S. V. HYDE-PRICE, J.P.

2 Non-Council Members on nomination of Blackpool & Fylde Division of B.M.A. :

A. C. FERGUSON,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

C. S. PHILLIP, M.B., Ch.B.

2 Non-Council Members on nomination of Blackpool Executive Council :—

C. H. MacKEITH, F.R.I.B.A.

P. VARLEY, M.P.S.

5 Non-Council Members (Women) on nomination of Corporate Members :—

Mrs. J. HENSON, S.R.N.

Mrs. A. OLIVER.

Mrs. E. REVILL.

Mrs. H. ROBINSON.

Mrs. A. SHUTTLEWORTH.

1 Non-Council Member on nomination of Local Dental Committee :—

T. D. BOLTON, L.D.S.

2 Non-Council Members on nomination of Blackpool & Fylde Hospital Management Committee :—

Mrs. A. DEAKIN.

J. A. WHITEHOUSE, J.P.

RELATED HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, ALDERMAN E. A. MACHIN, J.P.

Chairman :

Councillor H. W. BARNES.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor A. E. Stuart, J.P.

Coun. A. ASHWORTH.

Coun. E. BIBBY.

Coun. W. DUGDALE, J.P.

Coun. T. B. FAIRCLOUGH, J.P.

Coun. H. L. HOYLE.

Coun. K. MASSEY.

Coun. R. H. PHAYRE.

Coun. A. PILLING.

Coun. J. P. RODGER.

Coun. A. SAGAR.

Coun. E. W. SEAMAN.

Coun. L. F. SHARPE.

Coun. J. WALSH.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

(As at 31st December, 1959)

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer:

DAVID W. WAUCHOB, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

DAVID POWYS WYNN ROBERTS, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers:

KATHLEEN BALL, MB., Ch.B.

MARIE-JOYCE RIBCHESTER, L.R.C.P. & S. (Edinburgh),
L.R.F.P. & S. (Glasgow).

Chief Public Health Inspector:

JOHN PICKARD (*a*) (*b*)

Chief Administrative Assistant:

JOHN A. BENTLEY, D.P.A.

Superintendent Nursing Officer:

MISS W. BARLOW (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (*f*) (*g*)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector: A. DANIEL (*a*) (*b*) ; Chief Meat and Food Inspector: T. W. LOMAX (*a*) (*b*) ; Specialist Smoke Inspector: L. MOORHOUSE (*a*) (*b*) ; Specialist Meat Inspector: R. WRIGHT (*a*) (*b*) ; District Public Health Inspectors: A. E. FITTON (*a*), E. SMITH (*a*), W. MOISTER (*a*), E. W. BURROWS (*a*) (*b*), J. PARKINSON (*a*) (*b*), L. W. ORMROD (*a*) (*b*), J. GIBSON (*a*) (*b*), F. HAYWARD (qualified 1.6.59) ; Trainee Public Health Inspector Vacant ; Pupil Public Health Inspectors: E. L. COBB, I. MILLER ; Pestologist A. H. HOWARD.

Abattoirs Superintendent:

W. RILEY (*a*) (*b*)

Health Visitors:

A. BRINING (*c*) (*e*) (*f*) (*g*), E. M. BUTLER (*c*) (*e*) (*f*), C. HARDMAN (*c*) (*f*), P. M. JAMES (*c*) (*e*) (*f*), A. LEACH (*c*) (*e*) (*f*) (*g*), M. PARTINGTON (*c*) (*d*) (*e*), M. RYDER (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (*f*), D. SALISBURY (*c*) (*e*) (*f*), P. WROE (*c*) (*e*) (*f*) (*i*) ; Tuberculosis Health Visitors: D. HARRISON (*c*) (*e*) (*f*), F. NIGHTINGALE (*c*) (*e*) (*f*) (*g*).

Municipal Midwives:

V. E. AINSWORTH (*c*) (*e*), D. AXTON (*c*) (*e*), I. DUXBURY (*c*) (*e*) (*g*), R. E. GILES (*c*) (*e*), L. HILL (*c*) (*e*).

District Nurses:

D. BENNETT (c)	R. ELLIOTT (c)	N. ROE (c)
I. M. CLAYTON (c)	D. C. FOSTER (c)	L. M. ROBINSON (c)
G. J. COOPER (c) (e)	J. GILLETT (c)	M. ROSSALL (c)(e)(d)(g)(h)
S. E. COOPER (c)	E. GREATOREX (c)(e)(d)	L. M. TAYLOR (c) (e)
J. C. DALE (c)	M. HOWARTH (c)	M. E. TURLEY (c)
I. DEWHURST (c)	S. M. HOWELL (c)	D. WEBSTER (c)
C. DOBSON (c) (d)	M. McROY (c) (d)	E. YOUNG (c)

Male District Nurses:

E. COCHRANE(c) S. HARROP (c) (g)

Mental Health Staff:

Duly Authorised Officers: D. TAYLOR, T. DOUGLAS.

Mental Health Worker: Miss R. W. HALSALL, B.A. (Admin.), A.M.I.A.

Occupation Centre Staff:

Supervisor: Mrs. L. C. M. A. PRYAR, Dip. N.A.M.H.

Assistant Supervisors: Mrs. M. G. GRIFFITHS, Miss K. PARR.

Administrative and Clerical Staff:

Senior Statistical Clerk: R. PRYAR, A.C.C.S.

Section Senior Clerks: H. R. DOWLING, J. A. BRIERLEY, F. CURWEN,
J. RICHARDSON.

Secretary to Medical Officer of Health: Miss N. BROWN.

Male Clerks : 3.

Shorthand Typists : 2.

Female Clerks: 13.

Telephonist: 1.

Domestic Help Supervisor: Mrs. H. McCLELLAN.

Physiotherapists: Mrs. B. CHESTER, M.C.S.P.

Mrs. C. M. SAHAY, M.C.S.P. (Sessional Work only).

Radiographer: Mrs. M. EASTER (c) (d).

Day Nursery Matron: Miss M. E. WHITEHEAD (c) (e).

Ambulance Officer: F. DIXON.

Public Analysts (Part-time): J. G. SHERRATT, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Deputy: R. SINAR, B.Pharm., B.Sc., F.P.S., F.R.I.C.

- (a) Holders of the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute or Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board. (Now reconstituted as the Diploma in Public Health Inspection).
- (b) Holders of the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Meat and Other Foods. (Now reconstituted as the Certificate Public Health Inspectors' Examination Board for Meat and Other Foods).
- (c) General Trained.
- (d) Fever Trained.
- (e) State Certified Midwife.
- (f) Health Visitors' Certificate of the Royal Society of Public Health.
- (g) Trained in District Nursing by the Queen's Institute of District Nursing.
- (h) Midwifery Teachers' Diploma.
- (i) State Registered Children's Nurse.

Erratum: Page 5, paragraph 5, line 2. For "Morbidity" read "Mortality."

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee
and the Related Health Services Committee.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my first Report as Medical Officer of Health on the health of Blackpool for the year 1959. In this foreword attention is drawn to some of the main features of the year; further details of these will be found elsewhere in the report.

On the 1st April, we welcomed to the staff of the Health Department, Dr. D. P. W. Roberts, as Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

Once again the estimated population of 143,600 has continued to drop and is now within 50 of the estimated population of 1945. (That figure, 143,650, was computed when unstable events made estimates difficult and this is emphasised by the estimate for 1946 of 150,090.) Later in the Report is a table which attempts to show the change in the population due to migration. There are great temptations to speculate on the reasons for this change, but the effect of the closing of a large aircraft factory in 1956 would appear to be reflected in the figures. The building rate of new houses in the administrative county area adjacent to the borough is approximately twice that in Blackpool and has attracted many young families out to these areas. This has been partly off-set by the movement of retired people who come to live in the borough. This tends to increase the proportion of elderly people in the population. It is natural then that continued expansion has taken place in the provision of services for the care of the aged.

During the year consideration was given to making provision for an increase in the number of Home Helps in the subsequent financial year. This was necessitated by the increasingly heavy demand on this essential support of family life in the community.

Although sickness rates, if available, are a better measure of the health of the community than Morbidity Rates, it is fair to say that a study of the vital statistics of the borough show an improvement in the health of the community. No records were broken, except in tuberculosis, where the death rate has now dropped to .11 per 1000 of the population. The Standardised Death Rate for Blackpool of 14.1 remains higher than the standardised figure for England and Wales of 11.6. Experience has shown that Blackpool is popular with those who retire due to advancing years or ill health. Many of these formerly lived in the industrial areas of Lancashire and Yorkshire where there is a high incidence of respiratory diseases. This undoubtedly contributes to the difference in the previously mentioned rates.

In 1959 no maternal deaths occurred. This happy state calls for no relaxation of continued effort but it is cheering to recall the improvement over the last 30 years, when in the five-year period 1931-35, on the average, six mothers died per 1000 births.

There has been a welcome reduction in the infant mortality rate from last year's high figure of 29.6, although the present figure of 24.8 is still higher than the national average of 22.2.

The deaths in Blackpool due to circulatory disease, which now accounts for half the deaths in the country, follow that of the national trend in having risen from 264 in 1950 to 436 in 1959. This disease will increase in proportion to the increasing numbers of old people in the population. Degenerative diseases are more common with increasing age and as yet the recent advances in medicine have had comparatively little success, although the attack upon chronic diseases has become one of the outstanding medical and social problems of the day.

The increased birth rate for 1959 which when standardised for the population was 13.4, is still considerably below 17.2, which is the similar figure for England and Wales. This lower birth rate is the trend amongst residential seaside resorts. The percentage of illegitimate births remained almost unchanged at 7.2. In view of the difference between this and the national figure for 1959 of 4.8, it is proposed to carry out a special investigation during the next calendar year to determine the proportion of these occurring amongst the local population.

When considering factors which are likely to affect the health of the community, no report on 1959 would be complete without mention of the glorious summer which will prove a conversational piece until the next fine summer and it is hoped that the interval will be shorter than last. Later in this report, therefore, will be found details supplied by the Meteorological Officer and it is proposed to continue these in subsequent reports.

Full employment has long been accepted as a requirement for social security and the employment figures for Blackpool, supplied by the Ministry of Labour, show a seasonal fluctuation. This situation is not a temporary one and is one that is common to all seaside resorts. There have always been significant inter-relationships between health and economic status. Although this has been modified by the present system of social security, the periods of unemployment do obviously make it more difficult to budget for a steady standard of living for those families in the poorer economic classes. This effect can be more drastic when every inducement is extended to encourage the acquisition of articles on hire purchase. Incidents arising out of these circumstances have been few but not insignificant. Continuous efforts are being made by giving social advice and teaching and in this work the health visitor has considerable functions to perform by tactful approach to the individual. The provision of work which could maintain a steady level of employment is the answer which would commend itself as being the best for these families and the community.

During the year there was a continuous growth of the services of the health department, although this was impeded by the shortage of staff in some sections. This was especially marked in the physiotherapy section, where the national shortage makes itself apparent. The staffing position of the district nurses improved and this, coupled with their increased mobility with the greater use of cars and scooters, enabled an improved service to be provided. Similarly the medical staff were unable to reach full establishment throughout the year and it is essential that these shortages should be borne in mind when considering the following milestones.

Thames Road Clinic opened its first session on the 10th March. This clinic is held weekly and was established in response to a demand for a clinic in the south west area of the town, where the number of new houses and difficulty of transport to existing clinics, justified the expansion. The wisdom of this decision is borne out by the good response, although conditions in the hall are far from ideal.

The Poliomyelitis vaccination campaign, which had been hanging fire, suddenly exploded in April following the death of a well-known footballer. Special arrangements were made to meet the unparalleled demand. Approximately 19,000 people up to 25 years of age were vaccinated during the year. The staff was extended to its limits and useful help was given by the members of the W.V.S. who assisted with the clerical work. It is hoped that as a result of these efforts, combined with the family doctors who did their share to vaccinate the total, that it will be possible to look forward to the future eradication of the disease.

In October routine B.C.G. vaccination of school children was commenced. This was offered to all school children in their 13th year and the initial response was reasonably encouraging. Before any testing and vaccination is carried out, the procedure is explained to the children and explanatory leaflets are distributed to the parents and their consent is obtained. The importance of this useful method of prevention of T.B. is not diminished by the reduction of deaths due to the declining "captain of the man of death" but rather more necessary to ensure that he does not administer a dying kick to the unprotected child population.

Following the instigation of the Ministry of Health, provision was made for a Chiropody Service to commence early in 1960. When established this service should do much to maintain old people on their feet, both metaphorically and literally. Much isolation and depression is caused by a lack of mobility when every step becomes a burden. This one measure will do much to improve the mental as well as the physical health of the priority classes to whom it applies.

More directly the Mental Health Act which was passed in July has placed an increased responsibility on the Local Authorities to provide for the community care

of the mentally ill. The Health Committee have been giving long consideration to the requirements of this section of the community. The new junior training centre which was in the course of construction during the year is evidence of this forethought and planning. The development of future services will have to await the growth of public interest to a point where further advances will be acceptable. Evidence of the changing attitude of the public to mental illness is shown by the increase in the number of patients entering hospitals for treatment on an informal basis, and the reduction of those requiring admission by order. (There has also been a welcome reduction in the waiting list for patients requiring admission to mental deficiency hospital.) When viewed together with the work undertaken by voluntary organisations it is safe to say that pleasing progress has been made in this field during the past year. A serious challenge has been given to the community in the new situation created by the recent legislation and this will undoubtedly be accepted by all progressively thinking sections of the population.

Closely associated with the work of the mental health section and often overlapping, are the instances where the individual through age and infirmity is unable to devote to himself proper care and attention. Compulsory removals under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act do not find favour with either the public or the members of the local authority staff, consequently action under this act is only undertaken when everything else has failed. The proposed integration of the School Health and Public Health Services should provide better supervision of the members of the community and reduce the number of these unfortunate occurrences.

The routine duties of the department in environmental hygiene and sanitation make a considerable contribution to the health of the community. Attention is drawn to valuable work carried out at the Abattoir, where all the meat produced is subject to inspection and all unsound food has to be dealt with in a manner which ensures safety for the community.

Due to increasing demands on the space at the Abattoir and the present inadequate facilities, consideration was given to the best means of providing the standard of facilities now required by the Ministry of Health. Eventually the authority decided to proceed with the provision of a new Abattoir.

Close attention is paid to all aspects of food, water, air and noise to ensure as far as possible a clean, wholesome environment in which to lay a foundation to live a full healthy life. Ready co-operation is received from the majority of the public in all these measures and this emphasises the wisdom of the department's officers in considering their duties to be primarily educational and advisory rather than the enforcement of legislation. By law one cannot make a man handle milk and food or anything else properly. Once he has been educated to the necessity, he will do it naturally without requiring continual supervision.

I should like to express my appreciation of the loyal and enthusiastic work of all members of the Health Department. I would also like to thank other Chief Officers of the Corporation for their ready assistance at all times and for supplying some of the information contained in this report. Co-operation between all branches of the Health Services is essential and the goodwill and liaison that exists between the local authority and the hospital and general practitioners is a valuable asset. I should also like to pay tribute to the voluntary organisations and members of the public who have given generously of their leisure time.

I am indebted to the Chairmen and all members of all the various Committees for their courtesy, consideration and encouragement.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

D. W. WAUCHOB.

Municipal Health Centre,
Whitegate Drive,
Blackpool.

Tel. No. Blackpool 63232.

General and Vital Statistics and Social Conditions in the Borough

Area (exclusive of foreshore) 8,650 acres

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of foreshore and Tidal Water	2,068 acres
Population (Registrar-General's estimate mid-year 1959)	143,600
Number of inhabited houses	49,984
Number of empty houses	702
Rateable value of the borough	£3,468,551
Product of a Penny Rate	£13,725

} at 31st December, 1959

SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE BOROUGH

Blackpool as a west coast holiday resort attracts the elderly persons in their retirement. Consequently its birth rate is comparatively low and its death rate high.

The prevailing westerly sea breezes provide a bracing atmosphere which attracts millions of visitors who do on occasions provide problems for a staff which is established to serve a population of 143,600.

Of recent years many small light industries have sprung up in the Marton area, and these have provided more full time employment for the local population in an area where employment fluctuates according to the season.

The Manager of the Labour Exchange has kindly furnished the following unemployment figures, and these show the seasonal influence on the town's employment:

Unemployed:	Males	Females	Boys	Girls	Total
15th June, 1959	1170	302	11	11	1494
7th December, 1959	1821	926	39	35	2821

Registered Disabled at 19.10.59:

Males	Females	Boys	Girls	Total
2386	358	8	10	2762

Unemployed disabled suitable for ordinary employment at 21.12.59:

Males	Females	Boys	Girls	Total
230	39	3	2	274

Unemployed—suitable for sheltered employment at 21.12.59:

Males	Females
31	1

The Hawker Aircraft Factory which opened in 1952 ran down staff in early 1957. This factory had at peak production been employing 4000 persons. Most of these have found employment in industries outside the borough, but continue to reside in the borough.

METEOROLOGY

I am indebted to Mr. W. V. Smith, Meteorologist-in-charge of the Air Ministry Meteorological Office at Squires Gate Airport, for supplying the very interesting features of 1959.

Comments on the year as a whole

Although 1959 will be long remembered for its long, dry summer ("A British summer which actually ran out of rain"), the year generally was not exceptional, particularly as regards rainfall.

It was, in fact, only the fourth driest since 1945 and comes fourteenth in the list of dry years since 1904. This was mainly due to the excess of October—December rains compensating largely for the deficit in the late summer and winter periods.

Nor was it, as many thought probable, the sunniest year since the war. This distinction belongs to 1955, which had more sun in both July and August. However, sunshine was consistently plentiful between May and mid-October and helped to place 1959 among the half-dozen or so really sunny years that have occurred this century.

According to local records, it ranks as the third sunniest year since 1945 and the sixth sunniest since 1904, but the total of 1721.0 hours is some way short of that registered in the best year of all 1911 (1843.8).

In overall climatic pattern, 1959 revealed a remarkable similarity to that of 1949. Rainfall, temperature and sunshine factors compare almost identically, and, as in 1949, last year both February and September were unusually dry. Another similarity was the fact that in 1959, as ten years previously, the rains came with a vengeance in mid-October.

The summer of 1959 was, however, only the fourth commendably reminiscent of that season since 1945, the others being 1947, 1949 and 1955. It was also officially acclaimed in many parts as the driest for 200 years, and, so far as local records are concerned, one of only twelve warm and dry summers in approximately the last 150 years. As such, come what may, it will always remain a treasured meteorological memory.

Some outstanding weather features in 1959

1. A gloomy, but extraordinarily dry February and the driest winter month on record since 1932.

2. The maximum temperature of 58 degrees on the 27th February was the highest February reading registered since 1904, at least in the Blackpool area.

3. The great storm of July 27th, when 1.57 ins. of rain fell in two hours, the worst summer storm for three years.

4. The driest August this century—and the driest of any summer month of any year since 1925—followed by the driest September on record.

5. *An all time-drought record*—since rainfall readings began in the area—of 38 days was established between August 14th and September 21st.

6. The highest September maximum temperature (81 degrees) since 1906.

7. The warm, sunny start to October, with day maximum temperatures exceeding 70 degrees on 9 out of the first 10 days, and the hottest October day ever known since 1904, at least (78 degrees) on the 3rd.

8. The wettest and windiest Christmas on record.

VITAL STATISTICS

					Male	Female	Total
Live Births:	Legitimate	...	...	...	806	808	1614
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	69	56	125
	Birth Rate (Crude) per 1000 pop.	...			12.1		
	Birth Rate (Standardised) per 1000 pop.	...			13.4		
Stillbirths:	Legitimate	...	...	...	22	18	40
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1
	Rate per 1000 births (live and still)	...			23.0		
	Rate per 1000 population	...	...		.28		
Total live and still births					898	882	1780
Infant Deaths					20	23	43
Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births—total					24.8		
Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births—legitimate					24.1		
Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births—illegitimate					32.0		
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1000 live births					17.2		
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births					7.2		

Maternal deaths (including abortion):

- (a) Puerperal sepsis ... Nil
- (b) Other puerperal causes ... Nil

Maternal mortality rate per 1000 live and stillbirths: Nil

BIRTHS

The number of live births resident in Blackpool during 1959 was 1739, an increase on the previous year. The crude birth rate is 12.1 per 1000 population, and the adjusted birth rate is 13.4. The rate for England and Wales with which the local adjusted rate should be compared is 16.5.

Illegitimate Births. 125 such births were registered during the year, resulting in a rate of .87 per 1000 population, and amount to 7.2% of the total births. The England and Wales rate for 1958 was 4.8%, this being the latest figure obtainable from the Registrar General.

Stillbirths. 41 stillbirths were registered during 1959. This is a decrease on the previous year and gives a rate of 23 per 1000 total births. This is higher than the rate for England and Wales of 21.0, but shows an improvement on last year.

RECENT POPULATION CHANGES IN THE BOROUGH

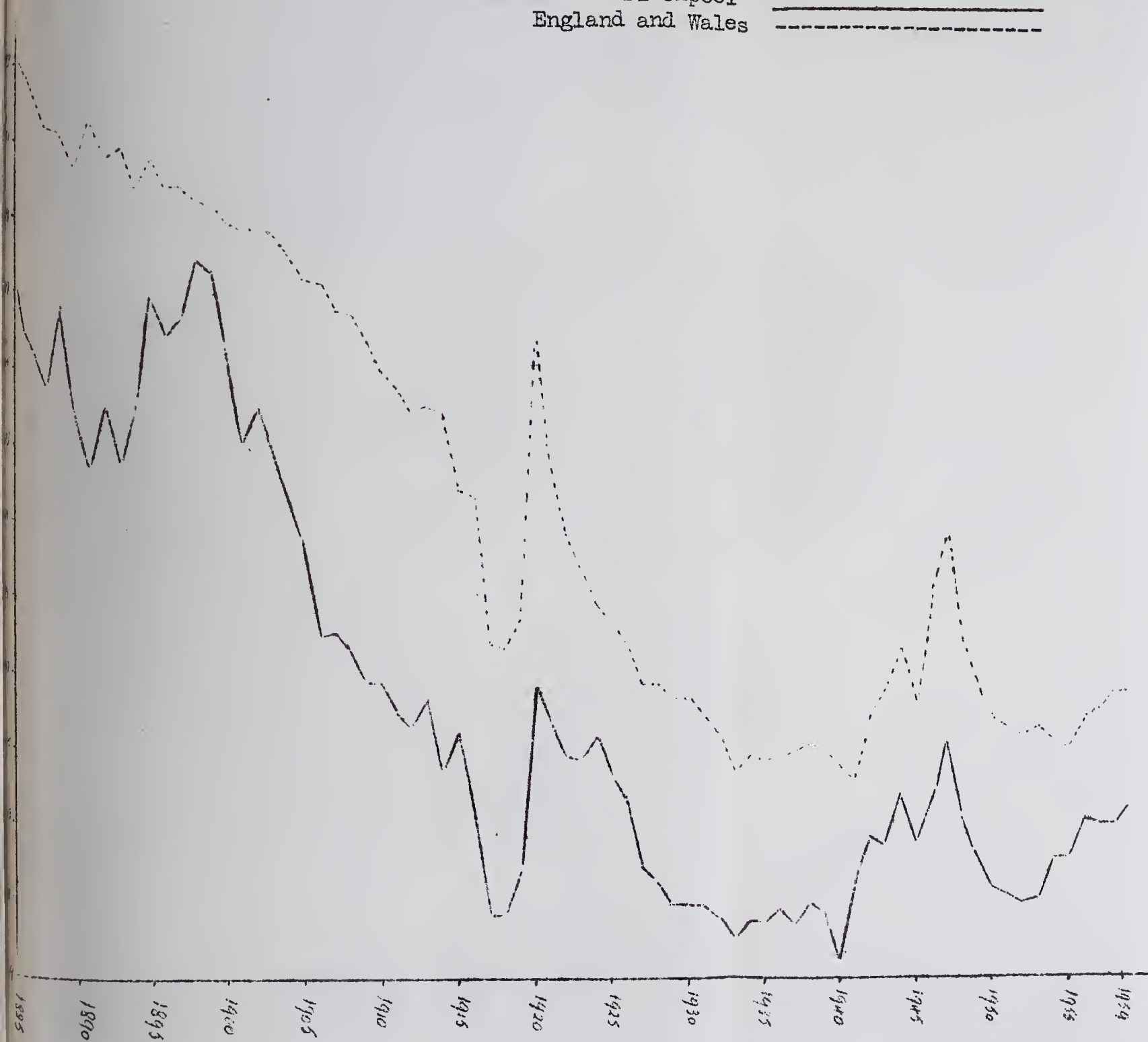
The following table shows the changes in population due to migration. The development of new housing estates outside the borough boundary has proved an attraction for some families to change their place of residence.

It is interesting to note that the population of the Lancashire County Council Health Division No. 3 area has increased by 2670 during the year.

Year	Mid year Population Registrar General's Estimated Figure	Population change during year	Change in Population due to births and deaths only during year	Change in population due to migration
1951	146,300	—3300	—1061	—2239
1952	147,300	+1000	— 656	+1656
1953	146,700	— 600	— 484	— 126
1954	147,500	+ 800	— 779	+1579
1955	147,200	— 300	— 769	+ 469
1956	146,500	— 700	— 687	— 13
1957	145,600	— 900	— 629	— 271
1958	144,500	—1100	— 743	— 357
1959	143,600	— 900	— 657	— 243

BIRTH RATES FOR THE YEARS 1885 - 1959

Blackpool
England and Wales



DEATHS

							<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	1184	1212	2396
	Death Rate (Crude) per 1000 pop.	...	...	...	...	...		16.6	
	Death Rate (Standardised) per 1000 pop.	...	...	...	...	...		14.1	
	Death Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...		11.6	

The percentages of deaths in various age groups with corresponding figures for previous years are shown below :—

AGE	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Under 12 months ...	... 4.0	3.1	3.7	4.5	3.5	2.1	2.7	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.06	1.78	1.67	2.05	1.79
1 year and under 5 years	.5	.8	.9	.6	.2	.2	.4	.5	.4	.4	.3	.30	.34	.13	.16	.29
5 yrs. and under 15 yrs.	36.4	34.1	34.0	32.2	32.3	30.7	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.05	.37	.34	.29	.17
5 yrs. and under 65 yrs.							27.9	28.4	26.6	29.1	28.4	27.13	26.82	27.64	26.49	25.58
65 years and over	... 59.1	62.0	61.4	62.7	64.0	67.0	68.7	68.7	70.0	68.1	69.0	70.46	70.69	70.22	71.01	72.17

The details in the following table showing total deaths allocated to Blackpool classified according to cause and sub-classified into sex and age groups, is furnished by the Registrar-General.

Causes of death at different periods of life in the County Borough of Blackpool

				All Ages	AGE AT DEATH							
					0—	1—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
Tuberculosis, respiratory	M	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	2	—
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
Tuberculosis, other	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Syphilitic disease	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	M	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	32	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	12	11	11
	F	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	12	11	11
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	M	62	—	—	—	—	—	1	30	23	1	1
	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	37	—	—	—	—	—	4	11	8	14	14
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	F	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	5	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	M	97	—	—	—	1	4	30	36	21	21	21
	F	99	—	—	—	1	2	27	33	31	31	31
Leukaemia and aleukaemia	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—
	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	—	—
Diabetes	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	3
	F	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	7	7
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	M	162	—	—	—	—	—	1	39	43	79	79
	F	188	—	1	—	—	—	2	24	48	113	113
Coronary disease, angina	M	267	—	—	—	—	—	4	96	100	66	66
	F	169	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	70	76	76
Hypertension with heart disease	M	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7	6	6
	F	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	11	12	12
Other heart disease	M	161	—	—	—	—	—	1	30	43	87	87
	F	250	1	—	—	1	6	30	54	158	158	158
Other circulatory disease	M	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	12	20	20
	F	80	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	16	60	60
Influenza	M	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	4	3	3
	F	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	10	10
Pneumonia	M	36	5	—	—	—	—	1	4	14	12	12
	F	32	4	1	—	—	—	3	6	4	14	14
Bronchitis	M	87	—	—	—	—	—	1	29	26	31	31
	F	44	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	15	23	23
Other disease of respiratory system ...	M	10	—	—	1	1	—	—	4	2	2	2
	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	3	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	3	3
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	M	6	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	M	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
	F	11	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	8	8
Hyperplasia of prostate	M	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	5	5
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	M	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	M	88	9	1	2	—	3	20	23	30	30	30
	F	101	14	1	—	—	—	17	25	44	44	44
Motor vehicle accidents	M	17	—	—	—	7	1	5	1	3	3	3
	F	7	—	1	—	—	1	1	2	2	2	2
All other accidents	M	14	—	—	—	1	3	3	4	4	13	13
	F	22	—	—	—	—	1	4	3	4	4	4
Suicide	M	15	—	—	—	—	2	6	3	4	2	2
	F	15	—	—	—	—	3	6	4	4	1	1
Homicide and operations of war	M	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES	M	1184	20	3	4	12	27	338	372	408	408	408
	F	1212	23	4	—	2	24	210	329	620	620	620

COMPARISON OF THE DEATH RATE OF BLACKPOOL WITH DEATH
RATE OF ENGLAND AND WALES 1888-1959



Deaths from Principal Causes

Rate per 1000 Population

and

Percentage of Total Deaths (Outer Circle)



Cancer. Cancer of Lung and Bronehus has steadily increased through the years up to 1958, but during 1959 a surprising decrease occurred.

The death rate per 1000 population has decreased to .46, which is the same as the rate for England and Wales.

The following chart shows the number of deaths (with the site of the disease) over a period of nine years, and it is interesting to note that there has been a steady increase in the number of deaths attributable to this cause since 1950, but with the exception of leukaemia, there was a reduction in the number in 1959.

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Lung & Bronchus ...	61	52	59	62	62	80	83	93	67
Stomach ...	67	67	61	56	66	54	62	70	64
Breast ...	31	37	27	35	44	35	42	45	38
Uterus ...	21	30	20	27	21	23	17	26	22
Leukaemia ...	6	2	6	12	3	6	12	10	12
Other Sites ...	195	188	189	189	219	206	197	210	196
All Sites ...	381	376	362	381	415	404	413	454	399

Rate per 1000 population									
Blackpool ...	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.8	3.1	2.77
Rate per 1000 population									
England & Wales...	1.96	1.99	1.65	2.04	2.06	1.66	2.09	2.12	2.14

Coronary Heart Disease. There has also been a considerable rise in the deaths from coronary artery disease, but again there is a fall in the number during 1959 :

1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
264	327	303	328	377	372	388	382	450	436

Rate per 1000 population	1.8	2.2	2.0	2.2	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	3.1	3.04
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Tuberculosis. 16 persons died during the year from tuberculosis ; of these 13 were classified as due to respiratory tuberculosis and 3 due to non-respiratory tuberculosis. The mortality rate (per 1000 population) for Blackpool and England and Wales are :

	Blackpool	England & Wales
Total Deaths ...	.111	.085
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	.090	.077
Non-respiratory ...	.021	.008

Infant Mortality. 43 children under the age of one year died during 1959. The death rate, 24.8 per 1000 live births, is lower than the 1958 rate of 29.6, but is higher than the corresponding rate for England and Wales, i.e., 22.2.

Neo-Natal Mortality. Of the 43 children who died during their first year, 30 did not survive four weeks after birth, and 28 died within the first week. The mortality rate, 17.2, shows a welcome decrease against the rate for 1958, but shows up unfavourably against the rate for England and Wales of 15.8.

Details of the causes of the above-mentioned infantile and neo-natal deaths are given below :—

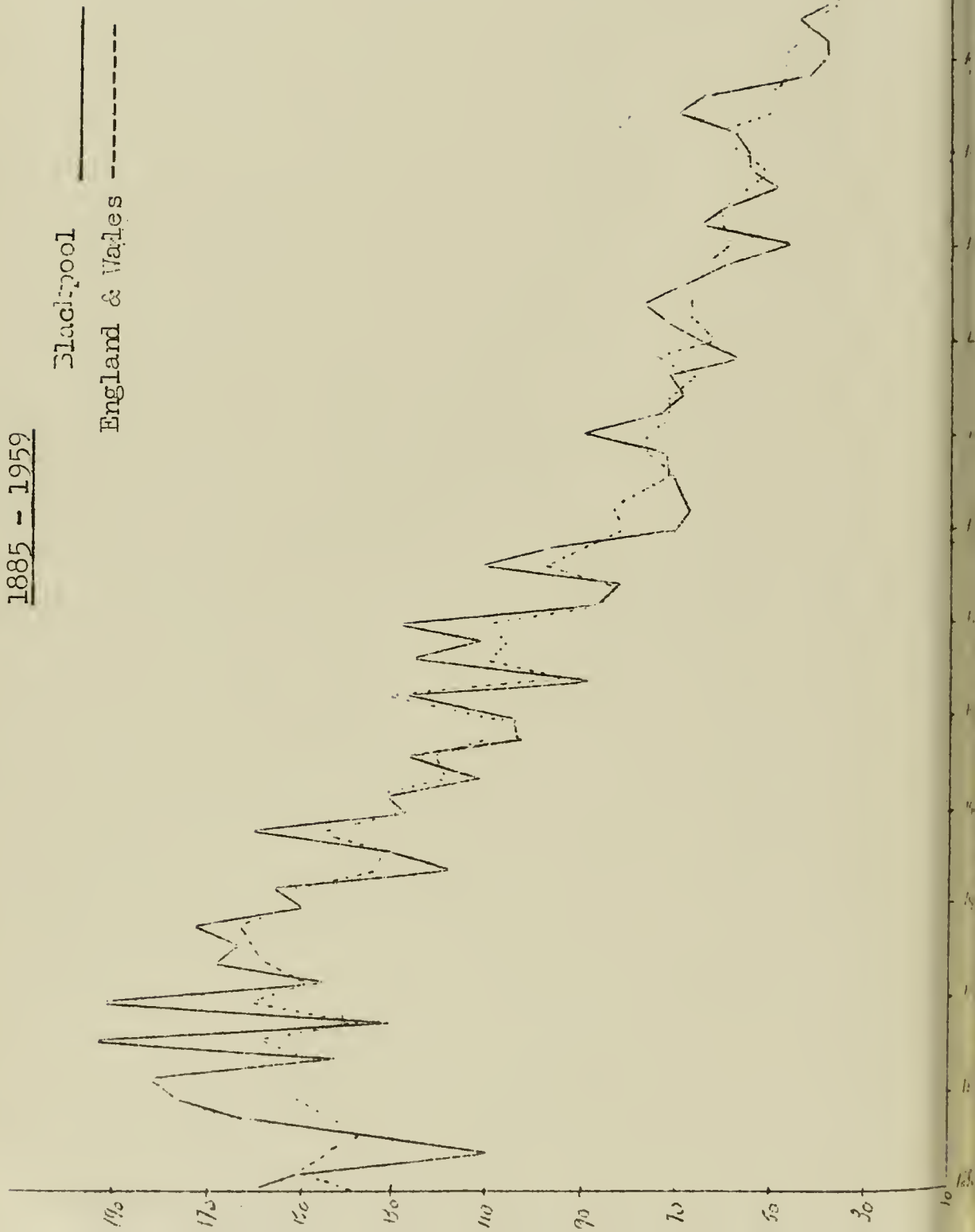
	Infant	Neo-natal
Prematurity ...	—	7
Meningitis ...	1	—
Pierre Rubens Syndrome ...	—	1
Oesophagal and duodenal atresia ...	—	1
Spinal muscular atrophy ...	1	—
Intracranial Haemorrhage ...	1	1
Haemorrhagic Disease of Newborn ...	—	1
Neo-natal Pneumonia ...	—	1
Gastro Enteritis ...	2	—
Intussusception of the Ileum. ...	1	—
Atelectasis with Prematurity ...	—	9

INFANT MORTALITY

1885 - 1959

Blackpool

England & Wales



Pneumonia	1	1
Congenital Heart Disease	—	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	—	1
Anoxia due to Suffocation (Infanticide)	—	1
Foetal lung structure	—	1
Tracheo Bronchitis	1	—
Spina Bifida	1	—
Broncho Pneumonia	2	1
Virus Pneumonia	1	—
Asphyxia with Prematurity	—	1
Congenital Meningo-Myelocele of spine	1	—
Meningococcal Septicaemia	1	—
Hydrops foetalis	—	1

Maternal Mortality. No maternal deaths occurred in Blackpool during 1959. As a matter of interest, the rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths for England and Wales is 0.38.

Comparative Statistics. The following table affords a comparison between the statistics of previous years, so far as they are available, with those of the year under review.

PERIOD OR YEAR	Birth Rate			Death Rate					
	Total Live Births	Still Births	Illegitimate	Total	Infantile	Neo-Natal	Maternal	Tuberculosis	Cancer
	per 1000 population	per 1000 total births	per 1000 total population	per 1000 population	per 1000 live births	per 1000 live births	per 1000 total births	per 1000 population	per 1000 population
1886—1890	25.2	—	—	15.3	144.2	—	—	—	—
1891—1895	23.9	—	—	15.3	168.2	—	—	—	—
1896—1900	26.5	—	—	14.4	159.9	—	—	—	.67
1901—1905	22.3	—	1.3	12.9	138.4	—	—	—	.93
1906—1910	17.4	—	1.2	12.2	115.4	—	—	—	.88
1911—1915	15.6	—	1.3	14.0	115.7	—	—	.91	1.3
1916—1920	12.7	—	1.4	14.7	88.8	—	—	1.0	1.6
1921—1925	15.0	—	1.3	14.3	73.3	—	6.6	.88	1.7
1926—1930	11.8	—	.93	13.7	66.2	—	5.7	.76	1.8
1931—1935	10.5	53.5	.76	14.2	63.6	—	6.0	.71	2.0
1936	10.8	55.2	.62	15.6	63.0	—	4.6	.63	2.1
1937	10.3	66.9	.64	16.6	57.7	—	3.1	.62	2.2
1938	10.9	42.5	.63	14.6	47.2	—	4.7	.59	2.3
1939	10.6	39.5	.78	14.8	53.5	—	2.6	.58	2.1
1940	9.4	40.4	.69	15.4	53.0	—	7.1	.49	1.7
1941	11.5	36.1	.97	15.5	56.8	—	2.0	.62	2.3
1942	12.7	36.9	1.3	13.8	68.4	—	4.8	.49	1.9
1943	12.5	30.3	1.2	14.8	62.6	—	2.5	.55	2.2
1944	13.8	33.7	1.4	14.3	41.3	—	3.8	.53	2.2
1945	12.5	29.1	1.7	14.8	37.8	—	2.6	.59	2.3
1946	13.7	28.2	1.3	13.8	37.8	—	2.8	.53	2.2
1947	15.2	27.1	.98	14.6	43.4	—	2.1	.53	2.1
1948	13.3	29.0	1.1	13.8	36.3	—	1.9	.47	2.2
1949	12.2	31.4	.88	15.1	25.8	—	1.1	.45	2.4
1950	11.3	28.7	.73	15.7	37.8	24.8	1.7	.30	2.4
1951	11.1	31.7	.86	18.3	35.2	24.7	1.2	.34	2.6
1952	10.9	29.0	.68	15.4	28.0	19.3	.6	.30	2.6
1953	11.0	27.6	.91	14.3	27.2	22.2	.6	.16	2.5
1954	10.8	32.2	.84	16.1	30.1	23.2	.6	.30	2.6
1955	10.8	26.4	.86	16.0	30.3	25.3	—	.21	2.8
1956	11.7	28.8	1.02	16.4	24.9	18.0	.6	.21	2.7
1957	11.7	26.2	.79	16.1	22.8	16.4	—	.16	2.8
1958	11.7	27.2	.85	16.9	29.6	23.1	1.15	.18	3.1
1959	12.1	23.0	.87	16.6	24.8	17.2	—	.11	2.7

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND EPIDEMIOLOGY

Full details of cases of notifiable infectious diseases are set out in the following tables, and attention is drawn to the following :—

Diphtheria. For the ninth consecutive year no case has been reported in the borough.

Whooping Cough. Although a slight increase from last year the number of cases reported is comparatively low.

Measles. The low figure of 1958 is once again followed by an increase, but the 1498 cases reported are not excessive when compared with cases notified over the past 15 years.

Dysentery. The year has shown no notable increase on last year. The figure of 62 is in fact below the average taken over the past eight years.

Poliomyelitis. For the first time in 13 years no cases of poliomyelitis have been notified within this authority. It is probable that this reduction has been brought about in part at least by the vaccination programme.

Disease	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Scarlet Fever ...	530	219	148	140	269	280	239	224	265	379	152	137	159	73	126	187
Whooping Cough ...	322	280	463	267	331	326	290	245	508	430	192	93	281	76	44	92
Diphtheria ...	56	95	44	44	39	25	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	1526	715	883	975	1586	1089	698	1756	1733	695	1741	932	82	3096	276	1498
Pneumonia ...	70	23	21	21	23	31	16	43	35	35	21	19	27	32	22	44
Meningococcal Infections...	12	4	8	5	13	5	3	1	5	3	—	5	8	6	4	6
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	2	10	4	6	8	6	15	44	2	8	14	4	8	—
Polioencephalitis ...	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	3
Dysentery ...	2	—	11	1	53	33	12	10	425	30	87	817	206	84	50	62
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	7	1	—	2	25	16	4	2	4	23	26	17	33	30	47	37
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	65	34	8	34	33	41	25	26	53	41	41	56	93	95	82	100
Enteric Fever / Paratyphoid B Fever ...	7	17	9	1	3	16	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	2	3	1
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	not recorded	—	—	44	66	8	14	194	44	29	24	92	14	101
Erysipelas ...	51	44	46	33	38	41	29	21	22	32	22	18	15	13	11	15
Pemphigus ...	5	—	—	1	11	—	—	—	1	—	7	—	2	1	—	—

Disease	Cor- rected Notifica- tions	Ad. mitted to Hospital	AGE PERIODS Corrected Notifications									
			Under 1	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over
Scarlet Fever	187	59	—	8	53	112	12	1	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	92	17	14	18	17	40	2	—	—	1	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	1498	27	38	303	433	712	10	1	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia	44	—	2	—	—	4	1	—	3	2	12	20
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	6	5	—	—	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
Polioomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	62	7	1	5	7	21	4	4	11	4	5	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	37	—	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	100	34	—	—	—	—	—	50	38	12	—	—
Enteric Fever	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	101	16	4	5	5	6	8	14	13	11	29	6
Erysipelas	15	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	5	4	4
Pemphigus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

FOOD POISONING

Early in July, 1959, reports were received that *Salmonella heidelberg* was becoming widespread in the town.

Investigations were carried out to trace the origin of the infection but for some time it did not seem possible to associate this with any particular food.

During the second week of August sampling of pork pies and cooked meats from a stall in a local market, following further cases of food poisoning, showed that these products contained *Salmonella heidelberg* organisms. This was the first positive food sample for pathogenic organisms, and immediate action was taken to stop the sale of the suspected food.

Further investigations were instituted in the food factory manufacturing and supplying the infected products and in the Public Abattoirs in Blackpool supplying the affected factory. Furthermore the Public Health Laboratory at Colindale, London, were informed and investigations started into the origin and purity of other pie ingredients, e.g., gelatine, etc., supplied to the local manufacturers.

By the 21st August at least twelve incidents of food poisoning could be shown to have had some direct connection with pork pies and cooked meat products manufactured by the food factory, and specimens taken from the factory showed *Salmonella heidelberg* organisms in pork pies, dripping, polony sausage, flour, sage, onion stuffing and scrapings from the refrigerator. In addition, eight out of the staff of nine were found to be symptomless excretors of the organisms.

The Recess Committee in August authorised action under the provisions of the Public Health (Infectious Disease) Regulations, 1953, and a statutory notice was given to individuals who had given positive specimens and who were engaged in the handling and preparation of food to discontinue employment until there was evidence of six negative specimens.

Stool specimens were also taken at the public abattoirs, Blackpool, and one person who was acting as stockman and slaughterer gave a positive result, and notice was given to him to cease work pending further investigations.

Arrangements were made with Dr. Robertson of the Public Health Laboratory, Preston, for anal swabs to be taken from the animals, and sewer swabs were also taken and forwarded to the Laboratory. No conclusive positive results regarding meat supplied from the abattoirs as a cause of the outbreak were obtained. Furthermore the Central Public Health Laboratory investigation into the purity of the gelatine proved negative. Dr. Galbraith states in his report there is a possibility of a consignment of the gelatine having been infected and most likely sources are the raw materials in the form of Indian crushed bone and dried hides from Java.

Instructions were given to the manufacturer at the affected factory to cease production of food products until the premises had been thoroughly cleaned, disinfected, repainted and certain improvements carried out.

These instructions were carried out satisfactorily.

In conclusion, there can be little doubt that a significant proportion of the food poisoning cases in Blackpool in July and August this year were caused by the consumption of infected food products from these premises.

This report shows that considerable vigilance is still needed to ensure a wholesome supply of food to the population.

Below is a list of incidents investigated and associated with infected food products.

Cases Notified	Cases found to have symptoms	Consumers at risk	Organism or other agent responsible	Food involved.
1	7	9	S. heidelberg	Not known. Onset occurred 29th July, 1959. The main symptoms were abdominal pains and diarrhoea, the illness varying from average to severe. The duration was about three days. No food samples were available.
3	3	Indefinite	S. heidelberg	Not known. Onset occurred on the 31st July, 1959, and main symptoms were abdominal pains, temperature and diarrhoea. The illness was severe and lasted about three days. There were no food samples available, but it was thought that the food causing outbreak was consumed outside the boarding house.
5	5	17	S. heidelberg	Not known. The onset occurred on the 22nd July, 1959, and the main symptoms were severe abdominal pains, diarrhoea and collapse in one case, the others having mild to severe abdominal pains and diarrhoea. The illness in one case was severe and the other cases only mild, the illness lasting from two to five days. No food samples were available. It was thought that the food causing the outbreak was consumed outside the boarding house.
1	2	2	S. heidelberg	Not known. The onset occurred on the 21st July, 1959, and the main symptoms were severe abdominal pain and diarrhoea. The illness was severe and lasted three to four days. No food samples were available. Boiled ham purchased from a stall which has since produced positive Salmonella heidelberg had been purchased by patient.
3	4	5	S. heidelberg	Not known. The onset occurred on 18th July, 1959, and the main symptoms were abdominal pains, sickness and diarrhoea. The illness was severe and lasted three days. The three children were admitted to hospital for treatment. No food samples were available.
1	2	5	S. heidelberg	Not known. The onset occurred on the 20th July, 1959, and the main symptoms were abdominal pain, sickness and diarrhoea. The illness was severe and lasted three days. The rest of the family had no symptoms and gave negative specimens. No food samples were available.
1	3	5	S. heidleberg	Not known. The onset occurred on the 1st July, 1959, and the main symptom was diarrhoea, mild to severe, which lasted two to four days. Parents of the patients, with whom they lived, had no symptoms and had negative specimens. No food samples were available.
2	3	5	S. heidelberg	Not known. The onset occurred on the 6th August, 1959, and the main symptoms were abdominal pains and diarrhoea, lasting one to two days. The illness varied from mild to severe. The rest of the family had no symptoms and gave negative specimens. No food samples were available.
2	4	4	S. heidelberg	Not known. The onset occurred on the 12th August, 1959, and the main symptoms were diarrhoea and vomiting. The illness was severe and lasted three to five days. All the family had positive specimens. No food samples were available.
1	3	6	S. heidelberg	Not known. The onset occurred on the 27th August, 1959. The main symptoms varied from diarrhoea and sickness to diarrhoea and severe abdominal pains, and the illness varied from mild to severe, lasting three to five days. Three other members of the family had no symptoms, two producing negative specimens and one a positive specimen. No food samples were available.
1	2	3	S. heidelberg	Not known. The onset occurred on the 1st September, 1959. The main symptoms in the case of a child aged two years were sickness, diarrhoea, and abdominal pains. The mother, however, had abdominal pains, sickness, with no diarrhoea, but with stiffening of the neck muscles. The illness was fairly severe. No food samples were available. Roast beef had been purchased from a stall which has since produced positive Salmonella heidelberg.

Single Cases. During the year 63 single cases were notified or otherwise ascertained, and identified as follows:—

Salmonella heidelberg	...	...	...	50
„ typhimurium	...	...	...	11
„ thompson	...	...	...	1
„ Enteriditis	...	...	...	1

and in addition 19 patients were found to be symptomless excreters.

TUBERCULOSIS

Incidence. During the year 102 cases of tuberculosis were notified, comprising 91 respiratory and 11 non-respiratory cases. Of these 41 respiratory and 4 non-respiratory were primary notifications. The remaining 57 supplementary notifications were made up as follows :—

5 from Death Returns of Local Reigstrars.

52 Transfers from other areas.

The following table classifies the primary notifications of tuberculosis according to age groups.

Age Periods	Primary Notifications			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 —	—	—	—	—
1 —	1	—	—	—
2 —	—	1	—	1
5 —	—	—	—	—
10 —	—	—	—	—
15 —	1	—	—	—
20 —	1	2	—	—
25 —	3	4	1	—
35 —	6	3	—	1
45 —	6	1	—	—
55 —	7	1	—	—
65 —	4	—	—	1
75 —	—	—	—	—
Totals	29	12	1	3

The following table which summarises the notification register shows the number of patients at the end of 1958, the fluctuation of patients during the year 1959 and the number remaining at the end.

Type and Sex of Cases	Remaining on register 31.12.58	Notificat'ns (from all sources)	Died	Recovered	Transferred	Lost	Altered Diagnosis	Remaining on register 31.12.59
Respiratory Tuberculosis M	375	64	15	22	14	7	3	378
F	267	27	3	17	12	3	1	258
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis M	39	4	2	—	1	—	—	40
F	50	7	2	6	1	—	—	48
Totals ...	731	102	22	45	28	10	4	724

It should be noted that the deaths shown in the above table are the total number of deaths of persons on the register and are not necessarily those whose death was attributable to tuberculosis.

Mortality. The number of deaths which were attributable to tuberculosis in 1959 was 16. This includes 5 persons who had not previously been notified as suffering from the disease.

Chest Clinic. This Clinic, administered by the Blackpool and Fylde Hospital Management Committee, is held at the Municipal Health Centre at the following times :—

Monday	}	9.30 a.m.—12.30 p.m.	New and
Tuesday	}	2.00 p.m.— 5.00 p.m.	old patients.
Wednesday	}	9.30 a.m.—11.30 a.m.	Cases referred by General Practitioners
		2.30 p.m.— 4.30 p.m.	for X-ray only.

Primary Notifications of Respiratory Tuberculosis -----
Deaths due to Respiratory Tuberculosis _____



Thursday	9.30 a.m.—11.30 a.m.	Review of patients.
	2.00 p.m.— 5.00 p.m.	New and old patients.
	9.30 a.m.—11.30 a.m.	Cases referred by General Practitioners
	2.30 p.m.— 4.30 p.m.	for X-ray only.
Friday	9.30 a.m.—12.30 p.m.	New and
	2.00 p.m.— 5.00 p.m.	old patients.
	9.30 a.m.—11.30 a.m.	Cases referred by General Practitioners
	2.30 p.m.— 4.30 p.m.	for X-ray only.

Dr. L. Capper, Consultant Chest Physician, has kindly contributed the following report on tuberculosis in the Borough.

“ Whilst it is true that the notifications of respiratory tuberculosis were fewer in 1959 than they were in 1958, i.e., 41 against 51 respectively, it should be emphasised that cases still occur and do so in sufficient numbers to constitute a problem. Moreover, because of the nature of Blackpool’s main industry, i.e., entertaining visitors, there must be a possibility of even greater exposure to infection from tuberculosis than is revealed by the figures of the cases actually notified in the town itself.

One of the main tasks in the future, therefore, is going to be to extend the drive to find contacts of tuberculous cases as far, and as widely, as possible. Again, in view of the nature of the town’s main industry, it is frequently difficult for people who have been in contact with tuberculosis to attend for X-ray, but these difficulties must be overcome if people are to get as high a measure of protection as can be given.

The other main task, as far as the tuberculosis service goes, lies in the fact that the organisms of tuberculosis can become resistant to anti-tuberculous drugs, so that it is more and more necessary to emphasise to patients who are having anti-tuberculous treatment, the importance of taking regularly the treatment prescribed and not omitting it even for a short time unless there is some medical necessity for their so doing.”

VENEREAL DISEASES

The Venereal Disease Clinic is located at the rear of the Municipal Health Centre and Sessions are held at the following times: —

Males :	Wednesday	10.00 a.m. to 12 noon
	Monday and Thursday	4.45 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.
	Saturday	9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.
Females :	Thursday and Friday	10.00 a.m. to 12 noon
	Tuesday	4.45 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

To bring the clinic facilities to the notice of the public, small notices are placed in all the Public Lavatories, Railway Stations and the larger licensed premises in the Borough, stating the location of the clinic and hours of attendance.

I am indebted to the Secretary of the Blackpool and Fylde Hospital Management Committee for the following details :—

	Syphilis		Gonorrhoea		Other Conditions		Totals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Number of patients on 1st January, 1959, now under treatment or observation	42	49	33	16	44	5	119	70
Number of patients removed from register during any previous year who returned during 1959 for treatment or observation of the same condition	6	9	—	—	—	—	6	9
Number of patients dealt with for the first time during 1959 (excluding those transferred from other centres, etc.)...	12	9	113	44	250	77	375	130
Number of patients transferred from other Centres after diagnosis	1	3	4	—	—	—	5	3
Number of patients completing treatment or observation...	9	6	44	25	194	68	247	99
Number of patients not completing treatment and/or observation	3	5	52	14	27	1	82	20
Number of patients transferred elsewhere	12	12	27	10	30	6	69	28
Number of patients remaining under treatment or observation on 31st December, 1959	37	47	27	11	43	7	107	65

Attendances by Patients

	Males	Females	Totals
At which patients saw physician	2003	998	3001
At which patients did not see physician... ..	203	98	301

Dr. J. F. Mackay, the Consultant Venereologist, has kindly contributed the following comments on Venereology :—

The total number of all cases in Blackpool has varied little in the past two or three years, but it is gratifying to note two points. The first is that in 1959 there were no new cases of Early Infectious Syphilis. The second is that, once again, no case of Congenital Syphilis in a child was discovered, in fact we have to go back to 1954 to find a record of Congenital Syphilis in a child of under one year of age being born in Blackpool.

PROVISION OF SERVICES UNDER NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT, 1946

Section 22—Care of Mothers and Young Children

Child Welfare Centres. There are six Child Welfare Centres in the Borough, and attendances at these centres during the year ended 31st December, 1959, are given in the following table :—

	Municipal Health	Bispham	Hawes Side	Layton	Mereside	Thames	Total
Children under 1 year :							
First Visits	493 (508)	265 (302)	291 (388)	235 (199)	85 (71)	142 (—)	1511 (1468)
Total Visits	3978 (4506)	3315 (3951)	3400 (4852)	2142 (2571)	1022 (1077)	1178 (—)	15035 (16947)
Children 1—5 years							
Total Visits	584 (627)	1316 (1230)	854 (978)	357 (402)	436 (321)	99 (—)	3646 (3558)
No. of children who attended during the year and who were born in :							
1959... ..	420 (415)	248 (280)	296 (349)	205 (65)	85 (174)	153 (—)	1407 (1283)
1958... ..	94 (86)	63 (67)	13 (66)	36 (62)	10 (47)	75 (—)	291 (328)
1957/54	29 (55)	57 (42)	15 (35)	9 (83)	24 (28)	35 (—)	169 (243)
No. of Sessions per year ...	104 (103)	94 (100)	98 (101)	50 (51)	53 (50)	43 (—)	442 (405)
Average attendances per Session...	48.6 (49.8)	52.0 (51.8)	46.4 (57.6)	54.6 (58.3)	29.0 (28)	33 (—)	45.7 (50.6)

Comparative figures for 1958 are shown in parenthesis.

Negotiations referred to in the 1958 Report were finalised early this year, and Thames Road Clinic had its first session on the 10th March, and from that date one session per week has been held throughout the year. The wisdom of opening this hall as a part-time clinic is borne out by the average attendance of 33, which compares favourably with the clinic at Mereside which has an average of 29. It was necessary to appoint (on a sessional basis) a part-time medical practitioner to take charge of the clinic.

Ante-Natal Clinics. Ante-natal sessions continued to be held weekly at the five clinics, and these are attended by the Assistant Medical Officers and the midwives from the areas served by these clinics. This enables them to see their patients with the doctor.

445 sessions were held during the year, at which there was a total of 11,989 attendances by 1816 expectant mothers, which gives an average attendance of 23.9.

A slight increase in the number of mothers attended has not produced increased attendances, and the average attendance has fallen by 2.1.

Attendances at the clinic are shown in the table below :—

	Municipal Health Centre	Bispham	Hawes Side	Layton	Mereside	Thames Road	Total
First Visits	551 (547)	287 (233)	259 (320)	159 (138)	67 (53)	—	1323 (1291)
Total Visits	4222 (4371)	2152 (2178)	2238 (2478)	1444 (1210)	610 (499)	—	10666(10736)
Number of women who attended during the year	729 (748)	378 (338)	375 (421)	232 (209)	102 (74)	—	1816 (1790)
Number of Clinic Sessions per year	100 (101)	103 (104)	101 (103)	92 (52)	49 (52)	—	445 (412)
Average attendance per Session...	42.2 (43.2)	20.9 (20.9)	22.1 (24.0)	15.7 (23.2)	12.5 (9.6)	—	23.9 (26.0)

Comparative figures for 1958 are shown in parenthesis.

A midwife's session has been introduced at Layton this year, and the attendance per session is approximately 10. This accounts for a reduction in the average attendance per session from 23.2 in 1958 to 15.7 in 1959.

- Group teaching classes are given to the ante-natal mothers in the clinics for
- Relaxation exercises
 - Gas and air instruction
 - Preparation of baby's bath
 - Layette for baby
 - Care of the breasts
 - Development of foetus and what happens during labour.

Much of the teaching in the clinics is individual teaching and unobtrusive teaching through posters and demonstration material.

Light Treatment Clinic. There has been no further development of this service, but staffing since the resignation of the Senior Physiotherapist has proved difficult. The service has been maintained by the employment of a part-time physiotherapist attending the various centres four sessions per week. In addition, the services of the School Physiotherapist have been utilized to enable all sessions to be maintained.

The following table shows the patients treated and attendances made.

Treatment	Expectant and Nursing Mothers				Children under 5 years				School Children				Miscellaneous																				
	Cases		Attendances		Cases		Attendances		Cases		Attendances		Cases		Attendances																		
	Municipal Health Centre Clinic	Bispham Clinic	Hawes Side Clinic	Layton Clinic	Mereside Clinic	Municipal Health Centre Clinic	Bispham Clinic	Hawes Side Clinic	Layton Clinic	Mereside Clinic	Municipal Health Centre Clinic	Bispham Clinic	Hawes Side Clinic	Layton Clinic	Mereside Clinic	Municipal Health Centre Clinic	Bispham Clinic	Hawes Side Clinic	Layton Clinic	Mereside Clinic	Municipal Health Centre Clinic	Bispham Clinic	Hawes Side Clinic	Layton Clinic	Mereside Clinic								
Artificial Sunlight	173	68	82	—	—	105	80	5	—	1060	686	56	—	—	133	—	—	—	—	—	1161	—	—	—	—	11	—	1	—	15	—	2	—
Remedial Exercises	128	86	60	42	—	32	23	—	2	10	233	197	—	17	76	358	44	1	—	—	1828	177	4	—	—	4	—	—	22	—	—	—	
Radiant Heat	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	15	—	—	—	
Massage	—	—	—	—	—	54	29	—	1	10	361	295	—	13	76	56	7	—	—	—	441	35	—	—	—	6	—	—	19	—	—	—	
Faradism and Galvanism	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	77	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

Confinements in Hospital and admissions to Hospital on Social Grounds

The Blackpool and Fylde Hospital Management Committee continue to hold, on Friday morning of each week, a special ante-natal booking clinic at the Municipal Health Centre for those expectant mothers who wish to have their confinement in Glenroyd Maternity Hospital. The clinic is attended by the Consultant Obstetrician to the Hospital Management Committee.

Usually all first confinements are booked but other cases are assessed according to their medical and obstetrical needs. Those considered suitable for home confinement are referred to the Health Department and visited by the district midwife, who, if she feels that the home conditions are satisfactory, books the case. Should the home environment be unsuitable a report to that effect is forwarded to the Glenroyd Maternity Hospital and the patient is usually allocated a bed in the hospital. During the year 352 cases were investigated and of this number 149 were booked as home confinements and 194 were booked for confinement in Glenroyd. The remaining 9 were booked for hospitals outside the borough or made private arrangements.

Post-Natal Services. Post-Natal Clinics are held once a week at the Health Centre Clinic, once every fourth week at Layton and Bispham Clinics, and fortnightly at Mereside and Hawes Side Clinics, and during the year 113 sessions were held. All mothers who have attended the ante-natal clinics are given an appointment for an examination six weeks after confinement. Where necessary the patient is referred to the Consultant Gynaecologist at the Victoria Hospital. During the year 756 women attended the clinic, 748 of whom were new patients, and in all 1077 attendances were made, giving an average of 9.5 per session.

Family Planning Clinic. From the 1st January the Blackpool and Fylde Family Planning Clinic took over all cases who had previously been attending the birth control clinic, and the Honorary Secretary has kindly furnished the following information :

The evening clinic has increased the number of new patients, the number rising from 365 last year to 507 to the 31st January, 1960. Sixty-one of these were pre-marriage cases. The number of patients returning for further visits has increased from 1218 to 1416.

Of the above number 53 were patients referred to the Clinic by my assistant medical officers, and for which a fee for each case was paid.

The Medical Staff consists of two doctors and three State Registered Nurses, and a voluntary Lay Staff are in attendance to carry out the clerical duties.

The Clinic operates on Tuesday morning and Thursday evening of each week, excepting those in which a Bank Holiday falls.

Day Nursery. The one Day Nursery at the corner of Caunce Street and Devonshire Road, which has accommodation for 50, continues as in previous years. There is no change in the policy of confining admission of children to cases of extreme necessity, and the present staff enables a maximum number of 21 to be accommodated.

The following table gives information regarding attendances, staff, and number of mothers released for employment :—

STAFF

Matron	Nursery Nurse	Nursery Assistants	Domestics
1	1	1	1 (part-time)

ATTENDANCES

		Total	Average Daily
Monday to Friday	...	3449	13.5
Saturday	...	152	3.5

The number of mothers released for employment during the year is 40.

Many applications are received to admit children, but unfortunately it has been necessary to confine the number to those of priority groups, and those who are unable to qualify under the regulation are referred to registered child minders.

Nurseries and Child Minders Regulations Act, 1948. One application for registration under the above regulations was received, and approval was given to take 5 children. One Daily Minder surrendered voluntarily her registration to take 15 children.

At the end of the year the following position existed :—

Nurseries 1	—	20 children
Daily Minders 4	—	28 children

Welfare Foods. Cod Liver Oil, Orange Juice, Vitamin Tablets and National Dried Milk can be obtained from the Municipal Health Centre between the hours of 9.15 a.m. and 5 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, and from 9.15 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. on Saturdays. These items are also available during certain clinic sessions at the branch clinics, Bispham, Layton, Hawes Side, Mereside and Thames Road. Proprietary brands are also available if authorised by the Assistant Medical Officers.

The following table gives the distribution of these foods during the year :—

National Dried Milk	Cod Liver Oil	Vitamins	Orange Juice	Proprietary Brands Welfare Foods
29484	5278	5176	48781	19932

The total receipts for these issues amounted to :—

Ex.-M.O.F. Welfare Foods	Proprietary Brands Welfare Foods
£4,254	£2,257

Increased distribution in National Dried Milk and Cod Liver Oil and Vitamins is shown by comparing the figures of 1958 with this year, but a decrease is shown in Orange Juice and Proprietary Foods.

Mother and Baby Homes. An annual grant is made by the Corporation to the Fylde House of Help and the Lancaster Diocesan Protection and Rescue Society; the former association arranges accommodation for the unmarried mother to have her confinement and the latter maintains a home for such cases. Maintenance fees incurred in respect of Blackpool cases are also met. There was no necessity this year for accommodation to be provided for mothers by this authority.

Illegitimate Children. The major portion of the social work in Blackpool in this particular sphere is carried on by the Fylde House of Help, the Lancaster Diocesan Protection and Rescue Society, and the Health Visitors of the department. In those cases where the question of adoption arises the Children's Officer is affected, and in certain instances the Probation Officer is also concerned.

Dental Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers. The School Dental services have been available for the treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children during the year.

The demand for treatment has however been small in the case of the expectant and nursing mothers. A fairly high proportion of those patients referred by the Medical Officers have failed to keep their appointments. A special anaesthetist is in attendance when extractions are required, and dentures, when necessary, are provided without cost to the patients.

Pre-school children have attended in greater numbers and it is expected that these figures will increase as the service becomes more widely known.

Parents who attend with junior children and who have younger children with them, are informed of the services available.

The following tables show the numbers provided with dental care and also forms of treatment given.

A. NUMBERS PROVIDED WITH DENTAL CARE

(1)	Examined (2)	Needing Treatment (3)	Treated (4)	Made Dentally Fit (5)
Expectant and Nursing Mothers...	12	11	8	4
Children Under Five	26	22	22	22

B. FORMS OF DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED

(1)	Scalings and Gum Treat- ment (2)	Fillings (3)	Silver Nitrate Treat- ment (4)	Crowns or Inlays (5)	Extrac- tions (6)	General Anaes- thetics (7)	Dentures Provided		Radio- graphs (10)
							Full Upper or Lower (8)	Partial Upper or Lower (9)	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	1	2	—	—	11	2	2	1	—
Children Under Five	—	—	—	—	38	16	—	—	—

Care of Premature Infants. Every effort was made during the year to ensure that special care was given to all premature births. All such births receive an early visit by the Health Visitor. The following table gives details of premature live births in the borough, after adjustment for transferred notifications, classified according to place of birth, birth weight and period of survival after birth, from which it will be noticed that there were 131 premature births, 110 of which survived for one month. Of this number 114 were born in hospital and of these 95 survived for one month. Details of premature stillbirths classified according to place of birth and birth weight are also given.

Weight at birth	PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS															PREMATURE STILL-BIRTHS		
	Born in Hospital			Born at home and nursed entirely at home			Born at home and transferred to hospital on or before 28th day			Born in nursing home and nursed entirely there			Born in nursing home and transferred to hospital on or before 28th day			Born in hospital	Born at home	Born in nursing home
	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total			
3 lb. 4 oz. or less	5	6	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	1	—
Over 3 lb. 4 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 6 oz.	4	27	32	1	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Over 4 lb. 6 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 15 oz.	1	21	23	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to and including 5 lb. 8 oz.	—	41	42	—	12	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
Totals...	10	95	114	1	15	16	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	1	—

Section 23—Midwifery Service

On the 1st February, 1959, 47 midwives were registered as intending to practise in the borough. This number is made up as follows :—

Regional Hospital Board	...	36
Municipal Service	...	6
Private Practice	...	2
Nursing Homes	...	3

36 were qualified to administer gas and air analgesia. During the year the midwives attended a total of 2135 cases.

Each of the 5 Municipal Midwives is allotted a specific district, and except in the event of an emergency, or during sickness and holidays, attend only cases in their area.

At the present time each midwife is on call at night for her own area, but always has two full nights off duty each week and three nights on her week-end, which occurs every fourth week. Relief for any midwife on duty is carried out by the neighbouring midwife. The midwives are still a little possessive over their cases and like to deliver their own bookings.

The question of a night rota system has been discussed with the midwives, but it was very definitely considered to be unworkable with the present small number of staff, which is five. With each midwife taking 36 hours statutory off-duty each week, plus a week-end every fourth week, there are only three midwives on duty any given night. Also, for at least 27 weeks during the year when a midwife is on holiday or attending a post-graduate course, only two midwives are left to answer any midwifery calls for the whole of the town.

In order to introduce a rota system it would be necessary to arrange for two midwives to be on call at night as it is possible that more than one mother could come into labour during the same night, and the distance to travel, even with motorised transport, would make the time the mother had to wait for her call to be answered dangerously long.

The resident pupil is able to take some of the burdens of the cases off the shoulders of the midwife.

Four midwives of the Regional Hospital Board attended a Post-Certificate Course held in various parts of the country, and one Municipal Domiciliary Midwife attended a similar course held at Harrogate.

The training of pupil midwives continues and 4 of the Municipal Midwives approved as teachers under the Central Midwives' Board had 19 pupils under instruction for Part II training.

Two midwives continued to use private cars in connection with their duties for which they received a mileage allowance.

The following table indicates the cases attended by all midwives in the borough during 1959 :—

	Confinements Attended	Confinements with the use of :—			
		Pethedine	Trilene	Gas/Air Analgesia	General Anaesthetic
(a) Local Health Authority Services—Municipal Midwives	379	175	6	319	—
(b) Hospital Services—In State Hospitals ...	1,751	1,104	479	843	52
(c) In Private Practice—Domiciliary, Nursing Homes, etc.	5	2	—	3	—
Total—All Services	2,135	1,281	485	1,165	52

The recent findings of the Cranbrook Committee have suggested that 70% of the births should take place in hospital but there is little practical information in this report on the mother's opinion as to where she would like to have her baby if the birth were expected to be normal.

Th following table shows the trend of domiciliary and hospital confinements in the borough for the years 1955/1959.

	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Hospital	1,751	1,626	1,648	1,568	1,469
Domiciliary	379	388	368	372	340
Maternity Homes	5	—	75	66	71
	2,135	2,014	2,091	2,006	1,880

Maternity Service Survey. The object of this Survey is to ascertain the mothers' preference for hospital or home confinement, provided that the birth was expected to be normal and the mothers have had one baby in hospital and one at home, so that a fair comparison can be made.

The survey commenced on those babies born after 1st August, 1959, whose mothers satisfied the requirements of this investigation.

The following is an interim report on the 50 forms which had been returned by the 4th November, 1959.

Number of mothers in favour of hospital confinement ...	6
Number of mothers in favour of home confinement ...	44

Reasons for above preference :

- (a) Mothers favouring home confinement—
 - 13 mothers gave as the reason that there was more privacy and better individual attention ;
 - 10—more natural and familiar surroundings ;

- 3—ability to look after the family ;
- 2—not such a shock to the rest of the family ;
- 2—better relation with midwife ;
- 2—to ease the staffing position in hospital.

(b) Mothers favouring hospital confinement—

- 4—more rest, less work.
- 1—less worry.
- 1—every requirement at hand in an emergency.

Suggestions for improving the facilities during confinement in hospital :

No criticism—17 replies.

Praise—8 replies.

More bathroom and toilet accommodation	...	...	...	...	4
Should not be left alone in labour	...	...	...	...	2
Mother should have the final word in the question of breast feeding	...	...	...	...	2
Lying-in mothers should be out of earshot of the labour wards	...	...	...	...	2
More comfortable beds	...	...	...	...	2

Suggestions for improving the services during home confinement :

No criticism—29 replies.

Praise—5 replies.

Midwives should have cars	...	...	...	...	...	3
Home Helps at much reduced charges	...	...	...	...	...	3

(One mother states that there should be NO means test).

Suggestions for improving the services at maternity clinics :

No criticism—33 replies.

Praise—6 replies.

Waiting time at clinics too long	...	...	...	...	...	6
Lack of space and overcrowding at Victoria Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	2
Provision of tea at Ante-Natal Clinics	...	...	...	...	...	2
Less tea drinking at Ante-Natal clinics	...	...	...	...	...	2

Any further comments on the maternity service :

No criticism—28 replies.

Praise—15 replies.

Other items mentioned once—

Better home confinement kits.

Not enough midwives.

Mobile clinics in isolated areas.

“Something must be done about the callous ones” presumably referring to hospital midwives ! !

“Never believe in clinics.”

Keep women doctors at the ante-natal clinics.

Young mothers often have to listen to confinement stories in hospital.

Section 24—Health Visiting

The establishment of Health Visitors is 15, but two of this number have been allocated specifically to care and after-care of tuberculosis patients. The actual number employed against the balance of 13, at the end of the year was 9. The staffing position is still difficult, and two clinic nurses on a part-time basis continue to be employed against the establishment.

A Refresher Course held by the Royal College of Midwives at the end of October was attended by one of the Health Visitors.

The following details of the visits paid by Health Visitors during the year are shown below :—

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
(a) To expectant mothers :					
(i) First visits	180	104	172	238	234
(ii) Total visits	267	129	220	308	322
(b) To children under one year of age :					
(i) First visits	1557	1709	1801	1789	1961
(ii) Total visits	6536	4608	5353	7020	6475
(c) To children age 1 and under 2 years :					
Total visits	4099	2369	2643	3552	3553
(d) To children age 2 but under 5 years :					
Total visits	7893	5234	5883	6954	7012
(e) To other cases (except School Children) :					
Total visits	2607	973	3465	1005	2276
Attendances at clinic sessions ...	1495	1260	1201	1385	1623

Positive steps were taken towards the end of the year with regard to integration of the School Medical and Health Services, and the combined service should enable easier recruitment of Health Visitors and give a better service than the existing conditions do. It is hoped that in the near future I may report that the principle has been accepted and in 1960 is in operation.

Section 25—Home Nursing

The establishment of Home Nurses remains at 25, and the Authority have been able to appoint up to 24 during the year, but at the end of the year the number employed was 21 females and 2 males. The recruitment position appears to be improving, and it is possible to foresee the employment of a full staff early in the coming year.

One nurse attended a course arranged by the Queen's Institute of District Nursing and 12 nurses attended a one-day course arranged by the Lancashire County Council in October and November.

The services of the nurses are still in great demand, but although a greater number of patients required injections, the total number of injections given shows a reduction of 6,652 against the 1958 figures of 33,177.

			<i>Patients</i>	<i>Injections</i>
Anaemia	...	...	1407	7844
Antibiotics	...	...	253	2327
Diabetics	...	...	404	8767
Diuretics	...	...	1265	6843
Vitamins	...	...	1562	9208
Others	...	...	207	1536
Total	...		5098	36,525

Visitors continued to make calls on the service and 1386 visits were made. Details of the number of patients and the reasons for visits are shown below :

Surgical dressings	...	...	...	...	...	17
General nursing care	...	...	...	...	...	10
Enema	...	...	...	...	...	8
Insulin injections	...	...	...	...	...	72
Penicillin	...	...	...	...	...	18
Other injections	...	...	...	...	...	85
Total	...					210

Home Nurses are turning more and more to the use of their own mechanical transport and at the end of the year the Council had granted permission to three nurses to use their own motor cars and to nine to use auto and power pedal cycles. The remainder continued to use bus and trams and were reimbursed accordingly.

The following table indicates the type of work undertaken by District Nurses during the whole of the twelve months ended 31st December, 1959, including the figures previously given in respect of visitors :—

	Analysis of Cases				Visits to all Cases			
	Under 5	5-65	Over 65	Total	Under 5	5-65	Over 65	Total
Tuberculosis :								
(a) Nursing Care	—	—	—	—	—	76	—	76
(b) Streptomycin	—	31	6	37	—	1,216	151	1,367
Cancer	—	46	79	125	—	1,522	2,725	4,247
Heart	—	85	223	308	—	2,507	5,032	7,539
Diabetic	—	42	135	177	—	2,215	7,001	9,216
Other Medical	7	544	789	1,340	30	10,690	15,340	26,060
Other Surgical	10	250	285	545	95	4,044	6,886	11,025
Infectious Diseases	1	—	—	1	9	—	—	9
Maternal Complications ...	3	9	—	12	40	114	—	154
Chronic	—	47	400	447	—	1,676	13,601	15,277
Others	2	8	30	40	132	71	111	314
TOTALS ...	23	1,062	1,947	3,032	306	24,131	50,847	75,284

Section 26—Vaccination and Immunisation

Diphtheria Immunisation. Efforts to maintain a high percentage of immunity in the children of the town continued throughout the year, and mothers were able to take their children to any of the clinics for the purpose of immunisation. To every parent is stressed the importance of having this done as early as possible after the child has attained the age of three months.

General practitioners continued to immunise their own patients and forward records to the department and during the year they carried out 327 primary immunisations and 112 boosters.

Triple antigen (diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus) was used for all injections given at Local Authority clinics, but at sessions conducted by the School Medical Service toxoid antitoxin floccules, issued free by the Ministry, was given. During the year the latter service carried out 730 primary and 2142 boosters.

The following table shows the number of immunisations carried out in the year.

		Age at date of final injection (as regards (a) and (b) or of re-inforcing injection (as regards (b))			
		Under 1	1—4	5—14	Total
Diphtheria Immunisation	(a) Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation (including temporary residents) during the year ...	951	295	296	1,542
	(b) Number of children who received a secondary (reinforcing) injection (i.e., subsequently to primary immunisation at an earlier age) during the year ...	—	74	2,229	2,303
Whoop' Cough Immunisation	(c) Number of children who completed a full course of immunisation (including temporary residents) during the year...	950	283	25	1,258

Vaccination—Smallpox. Clinics for the purpose of vaccinating against smallpox are held in conjunction with those for diphtheria immunisation, and general practitioners vaccinating their own patients continued to forward completed records to me. During the year the number was 247 vaccinations and 48 re-vaccinations.

Prospective emigrants and travellers requiring international vaccination certificates attended the Local Authority clinics. The table below shows the figures of the total number of persons by age groups vaccinated during the year.

An increase in the figure of newly-born babies vaccinated in the year, giving a percentage of 55, shows that constant propaganda by the department is being rewarded.

Age at date of Vaccination	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Emigrants	Total
Number vaccinated	952	56	46	29	53	68	1,204
Number re-vaccinated	—	4	17	34	135	129	319

Vaccination—Poliomyelitis. The scheme for the vaccination of persons against poliomyelitis proceeded throughout the year, but the death of a well-known footballer on the 4th April, 1959, unleashed a totally unexpected demand from young persons. Not only my department but Health Departments throughout the country were inundated with requests, inasmuch as the stocks of vaccine built up over the previous months were quickly exhausted, and the department had once again to resort to the compilation of a waiting list. This is unfortunately a retro-grade step, as a number of persons jostled out of their apathy by a tragedy are, after a few weeks of waiting, inclined to lose interest and disregard the ultimate appointment.

Record sessions were held during the year and every available member of the staff was utilised to cope with the weight of numbers. At this juncture thanks are due to the Women's Voluntary Services who gave valuable assistance during these hectic hours.

By the end of the year third injections had been given to the majority of those who had applied for vaccination in the early months of the year, and once again stocks of vaccine were at a high level.

The position at the end of the year was as shown below :—

Number of adults and children who had received :

One injection	...	...	...	319
Two injections	...	...	...	559
Three injections	...	...	...	18,618
Awaiting injection	...	...	...	Nil

Section 27—Ambulance Service

This service continued under the joint control of the Medical Officer of Health and the Transport Manager, and the position at the end of the year is shown below :

<i>Staff</i>	<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Strength (at 31.12.59)</i>
Ambulance Officer...	1	1
Leading Driver/Attendant...	1	1
Drivers	29	28
Attendants	7	6

The two vacancies were at the end of the year being advertised. The attendant vacancy was for a female attendant, one of the two attendants employed, mainly on radio control and switchboard, having resigned.

The leading driver attendant is now located permanently at the Victoria Hospital for the purpose of obviating delays in the transport of patients from the hospital and to expedite the turn around of ambulances.

A meeting between representatives of the Victoria Hospital and members of the Health Centre was held to activate closer co-operation between the hospital and the Ambulance Service, and approval of the Lancashire County Council was sought to permit the officer to act as liaison officer between the Hospital and cases which were the responsibility of the County Council.

Vehicles. Number of vehicles : 15 at 31.12.59.

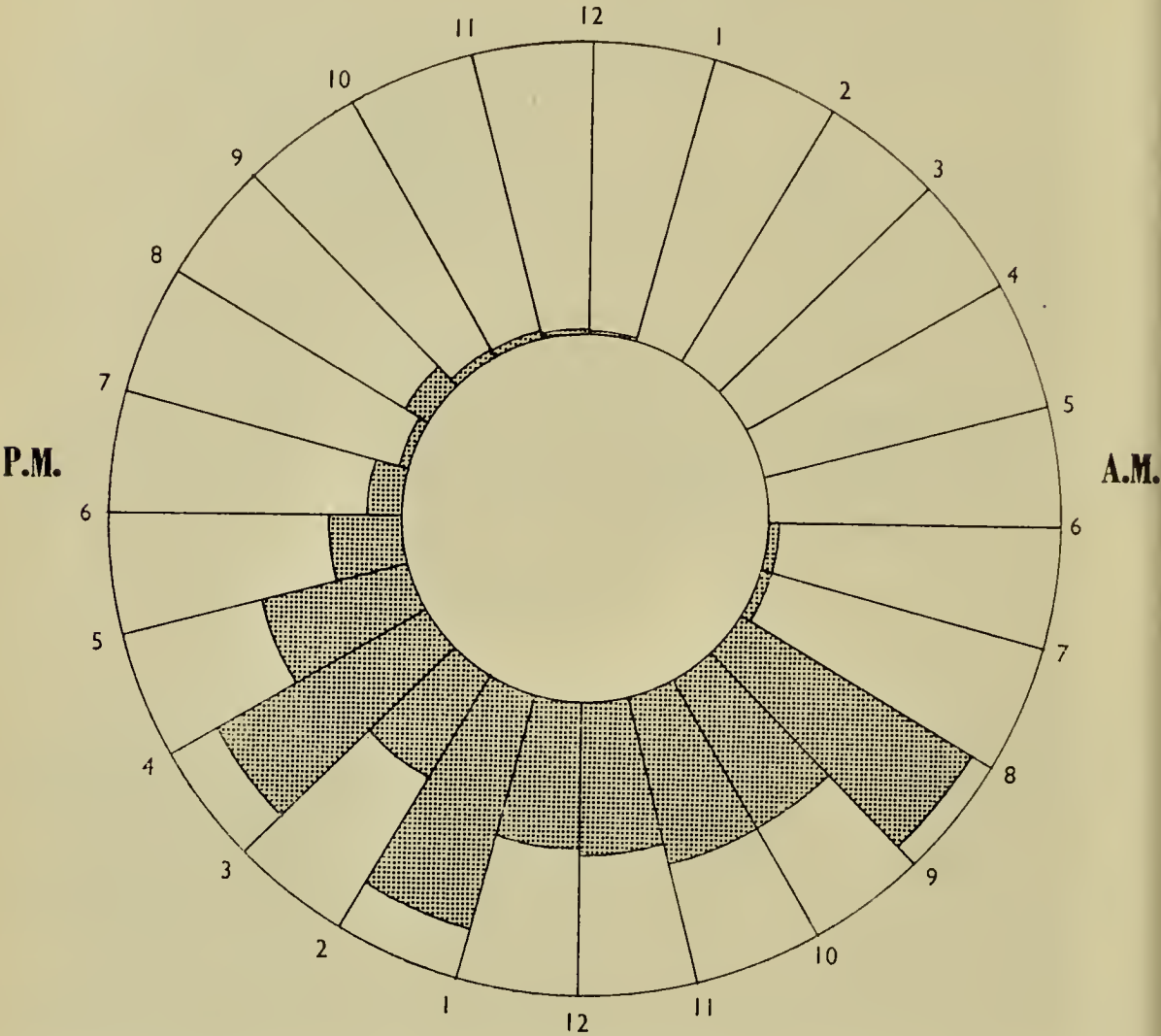
Ambulances—Morris—Petrol	...	...	...	3
Dual Purpose Vehicles—Bedford—Petrol	...	...	...	3
Ambulances—Dennis—Diesel	...	...	...	7
Sitting Cars—Morris Cowley—Petrol	...	...	...	2

During the year two of the Morris ambulances were dispensed with, and in view of the performance, both from an economical and roadworthy point of view, it was decided to replace these with Dennis Diesels.

Statistics. The following chart summarises the cases moved and miles run during the year 1959 :—

	1958			1959		
	Stretcher		Sitting	Stretcher		Sitting
OUT PATIENTS " IN "	929		13,528	952		19,304
OUT PATIENTS " OUT "	917		13,499	935		19,241
HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS	1,909		522	2,417		797
HOSPITAL DISCHARGES	993		2,435	1,155		3,835
HOSPITAL TRANSFERS	634		151	916		334
NURSING HOMES, CONVALESCENT HOMES (Admission, Discharge and Transfers)	289		62	348		82
INFECTIOUS DISEASES	231		367	340		1,369
MIDWIVES	—		358	—		544
MENTAL HEALTH	2		8	—		—
BODIES TO MORTUARY	138		—	207		—
OCCUPATION CENTRE	12		4,359	148		9,369
CRECHE... ..	16		574	—		1,301
EMERGENCIES	2,052		1,391	2,483		1,745
HOUSE TO HOUSE	141		154	151		157
ROOM TO ROOM	768		8	821		5
GLENROYD	498		2	842		2
BLE5MA	—		15	—		—
TRAIN	30		52	29		123
MISCELLANEOUS	6		194	8		46
TOTAL PATIENTS	9,565		37,683	11,604		58,402
	Ambulance	Dual Pur- pose	Cars	Ambulance	Dual Pur- pose	Cars
JOURNEYS INVOLVING PATIENT ...	6,974	1,533	722	9,003	1,961	840
SPECIAL JOURNEYS	35	32	11	176	351	163
WASTED JOURNEYS	184	10	16	185	4	21
MILEAGE	134,924	35,312	38,205	175,497	50,721	59,177

The figure below shows the percentage of cases moved hour by hour, and reveals that the peak case loads are between periods 8—9 a.m., 1—2 p.m., and 3—4 p.m.



Patients conveyed by rail. Arrangements were made by the ambulance service for the following cases to be conveyed by rail, and in 42 cases rail warrants were issued.

<i>Cases</i>	<i>Miles</i>	<i>Average miles per journey</i>
64	7722	120.7

Obstetric Flying Squad. The service continued to provide Obstetric Emergency Units (Flying Squads) and made 7 journeys in response to calls. The cost of such journeys is borne by the Blackpool and Fylde Hospital Management Committee.

Arrangements for Major Disaster. Detailed arrangements as between Hospitals, Health Department, Police and Fire Brigade and other interested bodies have now been completed.

Suitable equipment such as stretchers, dressings and blankets are kept in readiness at the Ambulance Station.

An exercise was carried out in late 1959 at Squires Gate Airport, when fire and ambulance teams from Blackpool and Lancashire County Council were called to a mock air disaster and this event proved extremely useful practice for all concerned. This exercise was repeated four weeks later to finalise the detailed arrangements.

Section 28—Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

Prevention of Illness. The circulation of exhibition posters and leaflets was continued during the year, and in addition such display material was provided at gas and electricity showrooms, libraries, clinics, public buildings, and other prominent points within the town.

Loan of Equipment. It was decided to expand the scheme of loan equipment during the year. An experiment in conjunction with the paediatric department of the Victoria Hospital is being undertaken with a “bell type” enuretic machine, and for this purpose two machines have been purchased and added to the list of equipment for loan. The two cases which utilised the new service during the year have been successfully treated.

There is little doubt that of the many services which are provided under Section 28 powers, few produce such highly satisfactory results from such little expenditure as the provision of home nursing equipment.

The following table shows by quarters the numbers of articles loaned during the year, and the stock of equipment held by the department :—

After-Care Equipment issued during the year 1959

Article	Stock	Quarter ending March	Quarter ending June	Quarter ending September	Quarter ending December	Totals
Bed Pans	23	25	15	15	11	66
Bed Rests	41	25	22	20	23	90
Air Rings	45	23	8	11	11	53
Rubber Sheets	40	24	10	6	11	51
Invalid Chairs	24	4	7	3	3	17
Male Urinals	16	12	2	8	2	24
Female Urinals	14	2	1	—	—	3
Bed Cages	11	6	4	3	4	17
Commodes	7	7	6	6	4	23
Crutches	34 prs.	5 prs.	2 prs.	3 prs.	1 pr.	11 prs.
Feeding Cups	8	4	—	—	1	5
Air/Water Beds and Boards...	2	—	1	—	—	1
Walking Cradle	2	—	1	—	—	1
Nocturnal Enuresis Alarm ...	2	—	—	1	1	2
		137	79	76	72	364

Tuberculosis. Care and after-care of tuberculosis patients and their convalescence is carried out by two Tuberculosis Health Visitors. These Visitors work in close co-operation with the Chest Clinic which is still situated in the Municipal Health Centre. Arrangements are that the Visitors staff the Clinic, thereby maintaining close contact with patients who attend the Clinic.

The following figures give a summary of the work undertaken by the Health Visitors during the year.

No. of Dispensary sessions attended 494

No. of Domiciliary visits :—

Routine visits :

New cases and contacts 218

Old cases and contacts 1468

Other chest conditions 24

Undiagnosed 13

Others 23

Total visits to all cases 1746

In addition to the figure shown 293 visits were made to households where access to the patient could not be gained.

Where support for a Municipal tenancy is requested by a patient or family of patient, sympathetic consideration is given by the award of points. During the year 11 cases of this nature were dealt with.

Bacille Calmette Guérin Vaccination (B.C.G.)

Contact Scheme. The contact scheme in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 72/49 continued. This work is carried out by the Chest Physicians and applies to children and young persons being known contacts of a case of respiratory tuberculosis.

The following table gives details of the work carried out during the year :—

		-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15 and over
Skin Tested	... ..	23	31	65	17
Found Positive	... ..	1	1	25	15
Found Negative	... ..	22	30	40	2
Vaccinated	... ..	35	30	30	4

School Children Scheme (Circulars 22/53 and 7/59). The Medical Research Council report in 1959 on B.C.G. revealed that this scheme has produced a substantial reduction in the incidence of tuberculosis in young people.

The scheme for the vaccination of school children between their 13th and 14th birthday was started in October, 1959.

The arrangements are under my control and medical officers who have received special instruction in B.C.G. vaccination undertake these duties. An explanatory talk is given by the medical officer to the children, and consent forms are sent to the parents. When these forms are returned tuberculin skin tests are carried out by the Heaf gun method and inspected three days later when the negative reactors are vaccinated with a freeze-dried B.C.G. preparation. Positive reactions to the tuberculin skin tests are referred to the local Chest Clinic for X-ray of the chest merely as a precautionary measure, and the parents are informed of the results.

Special precautions are taken when children are X-rayed to reduce the radiation hazard.

The following figures relate to the work undertaken during the year :—

No. of children offered B.C.G.	... ..	911
No. of acceptances	... ..	545
Percentage accepting	... ..	60%
No. completing skin testing	... ..	470
No. negative	... ..	391
No. receiving vaccinations	... ..	383
No. of positive reactions	... ..	61
Percentage positive	... ..	13%
No. of positive reactors who had chest X-rays	... ..	60
No. of abnormal chest X-ray findings	... ..	Nil

The provision of B.C.G. vaccination for the school leaving population does not imply that efforts in other directions at the prevention of tuberculosis can be relaxed.

The greatest co-operation has been received from the Chest Clinic and the schools.

X-Ray Department. This department continued to carry out a large number of X-rays on behalf of the Chest Clinic of the Blackpool and Fylde Hospital Management Committee, and for miscellaneous services, and the following table shows details of films taken :—

	<i>Large</i>	<i>Small</i>
Chest Clinic	7609	1909
Maternity and Child Welfare Service ...	49	—
Other Services	6	249

Miniature Mass Radiography Survey. No. 1 Radiography Unit did not visit the town during the year, but it is anticipated that it will be in the town next year.

T.B. Vaccines Clinical Trials. The Medical Research Council who, since September, 1950, have been conducting a trial of Tuberculosis vaccines in school leavers, and in order that a follow-up may be maintained, the department was requested to co-operate in contacting volunteers by a visit from the Health Visitor. The department was also asked to arrange for X-rays to be taken and forwarded to the Director. Thirty such volunteers had moved into the area and of these 8 came forward for X-rays and 10 reports were sent to the Research Council.

Chiropody Service. In accordance with Circular 11/59 of the Ministry of Health, approval from the Health Committee has been obtained this year to start a chiropody service, and these facilities will be offered initially to the priority groups, which include old people, physically handicapped people, and expectant mothers.

It is hoped to commence the scheme in 1960, by arranging a single session each week at the Health Centre, and this may form a useful nucleus for an old people's clinic. A small fee will be charged, but this will be adjusted according to the patient's means.

This service has been long overdue and it is hoped that the way will be opened for great strides to be made to keep the old people "on their feet."

The proposals submitted have included a clause to enable development of the service by providing additional sessions at the Municipal Health Centre and/or at branch clinics.

Accidents in the Home. Constant publicity is required to bring to the attention of the public the importance of preventing accidents in the home.

Burns and scalds, falls, poisoning and many other accidents have swollen the number of casualties requiring hospital treatment, and the Secretary of the Blackpool and Fylde Hospital Management Committee has furnished me with the number of persons admitted to the Victoria Hospital for treatment for various accidents.

Number of accidents causing scalds to persons				Number of accidents causing burns to persons				Number of other accidents, falls, etc.			
Under 5 years	5—64 years	65 years and over	TOTAL	Under 5 years	5—64 years	65 years and over	TOTAL	Under 5 years	5—64 years	65 years and over	TOTAL
19	47	4	70	11	42	8	61	283	1,176	305	1,764

Convalescent Care. During the year the Ministry of Health approved a modification to the proposals submitted under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, to the effect that arrangements for the prevention of illness and for the care and after-care of persons suffering from illness will include, where necessary, arrangements for convalescence.

No complete scheme for convalescence of domiciliary patients has been approved by the Health Committee but it has been agreed that in special circumstances cases may be recommended to the Committee by the general practitioner for consideration. Four cases were referred this year but none of the applications was approved.

Prevention of Break-up of Families. The department has continued its vigilance by visits of Health Visitors where it is known that families are in need of help with their domestic problems.

During the year a report was received from the Probation Officer on Miss D., who as stated in my 1958 Report was sent to Crowley House for a period of training. It is pleasing to report that Miss D. has achieved an unusually good relationship with her son, affectionate but not possessive. She is now able to give him the love and care he needs in a delightful way. She has learnt too, to live more easily with other people and tolerate difficulties. Miss D's standards are still not very high and she is lazy, but she keeps in constant touch with the staff at Crowley House who give a lot of after-care and support even from a distance. This fact and the mother/child relationship that has developed makes the training she received well worth while.

This case only has been mentioned by illustration, but many other cases have been dealt with by the department during the year. Close contact has been maintained with other statutory and voluntary bodies.

Domestic Help Service. On the 31st December, 1959, the staff consisted of one Supervisor and 63 domestic helps, of whom 42 were full-time and 21 were part-time. This number, although an increase on last year, is still insufficient to meet the demand of a town with such a high proportion of aged people.

It is proposed to make a provision in the forthcoming estimates to enable the department to employ a further 30 domestic helps and thus enable me to meet the commitments of the service.

The following table shows the number of cases attended during the year and the number of hours involved :—

	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Hours</i>
Confinements at home	7	38
Chronic sick, including aged and infirm ...	545	84,725
Tuberculosis	7	898
Others	31	1243
	<hr/> 590	<hr/> 86,904

At the end of the year there were 375 households being attended.

Section 51—Mental Health

At the end of the year the staff consisted of two male Mental Health Workers, both acting as Duly Authorised Officers under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, and one female Mental Health Worker, her duties being primarily those of a Mental Health Visitor, but designated to act as a Duly Authorised Officer in an emergency.

The following table gives comparative figures of the work undertaken by the Duly Authorised Officers for the years 1949-1959 inclusive.

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Admission, Orders	158	181	155	138	142	173	144	193	186	193	163
Admissions, Voluntary	72	79	59	66	106	128	134	180	282	267	298
Admissions, Informal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	97
General Enquiries	179	250	429	494	351	508	575	891	1055	1500	1489
History Reports	27	24	9	4	8	9	5	28	87	48	75
Home Reports	19	11	5	3	6	13	2	8	2	—	—
Hospital Discharges	137	192	149	121	151	228	239	314	389	400	513
After-Care Visits	217	100	121	116	59	52	115	143	184	540	375
Cases Reported for the First Time ...	No record	280	233	203	223	281	262	300	316	306	336
Confidential Reports to Hospitals ...	—	—	—	No record	—	—	—	—	114	130	30
Deaths in Hospitals	—	—	—	No record	—	—	—	—	34	38	39
Transfers between Hospitals	—	—	—	No record	—	—	—	—	—	—	4

The table below gives details of the hospitals to which patients were admitted during the year :—

Mode of Admission	HOSPITAL					TOTAL
	Whittingham	Wesham Park	Lancaster Moor	Sharoe Green	Winnick	
Lunacy Act, 1890 :						
Section 16	10	2	18	—	1	31
Section 21(1)	10	12	9	—	—	31
Section 20	4	22	74	—	—	100
Section 11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mental Treatment Act, 1930 :						
Section 1	55	116	126	1	—	298
Section 5	—	—	1	—	—	1
Mental Health Act, 1959 :						
Section 5	37	1	59	—	—	97
Magistrates' Court Act, 1952 :						
Section 30	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	116	153	287	1	1	558

Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938. The reporting of defectives during 1959, the disposal of such cases and the classification of defectives on the Authority's register are shown in the following tables :—

	Under age 16		Aged 16 and over	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Particulars of cases reported during 1959 :				
(a) Cases at 31st December, 1959, ascertained to be defectives " subject to be dealt with "				
Number in which action taken on reports by :—				
(1) Local Education Authorities on children :				
(i) While at school or liable to attend school	2	1	—	—
(ii) On leaving special schools	1	—	—	—
(iii) On leaving ordinary schools	—	—	3	—
(2) Police or by Courts	—	—	2	3
(3) Other sources	—	1	—	—
(b) Cases reported who were found to be defectives but were not, at 31st December, 1959, regarded as " subject to be dealt with " on any ground	—	—	—	1
(c) Cases reported who were not regarded as defectives and are thus excluded from (a) or (b)	—	—	—	1
(d) Cases reported in which action was incomplete at 31st December, 1959, and are thus excluded from (a) or (b)	4	3	2	7
TOTAL ...	7	5	7	12
2. Disposal of cases reported during 1959 :				
(a) Of the cases ascertained to be defectives " subject to be dealt with " (i.e., at 1 (a)) number :				
(i) Placed under Statutory Supervision	2	2	1	1
(ii) Placed under Guardianship	—	—	—	—
(iii) Taken to " Places of Safety "	—	—	—	—
(iv) Admitted to hospitals	1	—	4	1
(b) Of the cases not ascertained to be defectives " subject to be dealt with " (i.e., at 1 (b)) number :				
(i) Placed under Voluntary Supervision	—	—	—	1
(ii) Action unnecessary	—	—	—	—
(c) Cases reported at 1 (a) or (b) above who removed from the area or died before disposal was arranged	—	—	—	1
TOTAL ...	3	2	5	4
3. Number of mental defectives for whom care was arranged by the local health authority under Circular 5152 during 1959 and admitted to :				
(a) National Health Service Hospitals	2	2	4	3
(b) Elsewhere	3	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	5	2	4	3
4. Total cases on Authority's registers at 31st December, 1959 :				
(i) Under Statutory Supervision	22	13	44	43
(ii) Under Guardianship	—	—	—	—
(iii) In " Places of Safety "	—	—	—	—
(iv) In Hospitals	9	9	57	43
(v) Under Voluntary Supervision	—	2	15	12
TOTAL ...	31	24	116	98
5. Number of defectives under Guardianship on 31st December, 1959, who were dealt with under the provisions of Section 8 or 9, Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, (Included in 4 (ii))	—	—	—	—
6. Classification of defectives in the Community on 31st December, 1959 (according to need at that date) :				
(a) Cases included in 4 (i)-(iii) in need of hospital care and reported accordingly to the hospital authority :				
(1) In urgent need of hospital care :—				
(i) " Cot and Chair " cases	—	—	—	2
(ii) Ambulant Low Grade cases	—	—	1	2
(iii) Medium Grade cases	—	—	—	1
(iv) High Grade cases	—	—	—	—
Total urgent cases ...	—	—	1	5
(2) Not in urgent need of hospital care :				
(i) " Cot and Chair " cases	—	—	—	—
(ii) Ambulant Low Grade cases	—	—	—	—
(iii) Medium Grade cases	—	—	—	—
(iv) High Grade cases	—	—	—	—
Total non-urgent cases ...	—	—	—	1
TOTAL ...	—	—	1	6
(b) Of the cases included in items 4 (i), (ii) and (v), number considered suitable for :				
(i) Occupation Centre	21	13	—	—
(ii) Industrial Centre	—	—	33	29
(iii) Home Training	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	21	13	33	29
(c) Of the cases included in 6 (b), number receiving training on 31st December, 1959 :				
(i) In Occupation Centre	15	8	5	8
(ii) In Industrial Centre	—	—	6	—
(iii) At Home	—	—	—	—
(iv) From a Home Teacher at Home (not in groups)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	15	8	11	8

Section 5, Mental Health Act, 1959, was brought into operation on the 6th October, 1959. Under this Section patients who are willing to enter hospital may do so informally and from October it has been the practice to avoid using Orders except where the patient has actually refused to enter hospital. This has meant that the Duly Authorised Officers have assisted patients into hospital without any Order. Such patients, prior to the operation of Section 5, would have been removed on an Order, which accounts for a decrease of admissions on Orders.

The figure shown of informal and voluntary admissions as dealt with by the staff, i.e., 229, is not the true figure as it is believed many patients referred by the D.A.O's to the Consultant Psychiatrist, or the Clinic, have later been admitted to Wesham Park Hospital. It is not the practice of Wesham Park Hospital to notify the Health Department of the names of patients admitted informally, but only to give the number of such admissions.

After-care visits have decreased because in April, 1959 the Catchment Area was changed from Whittingham Hospital to Lancaster Moor Mental Hospital, and it is not the general practice of the Superintendent of Lancaster Moor Hospital to notify the Section of patients discharged, or that have left, for after-care. Many cases leaving Lancaster Moor Hospital are now referred to the Psychiatric Clinic for After-Care.

The decrease in reports to hospitals is accounted for by Lancaster Moor Hospital not requiring Confidential Reports which previously were supplied for all patients admitted to Whittingham Hospital.

It is considered that the number of cases reported for the first time would have shown a slightly larger figure if Wesham Park Hospital had notified the Department of the names of informal admissions. Possibly, in the future, through not having such notifications, the impression may be created there is a decrease in the number of new cases suffering from mental illness.

Mental Health Act, 1959. During the year the Mental Health Act, 1959, was placed on the Statute Book and its implications are likely to be far reaching. As yet only a small section of the Act has come into force, mainly dealing with informal admissions to Mental Hospital (Circular 27/59), whereby a mental patient can be admitted to a hospital without using the procedures laid down in the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.

Local authorities were circularised by the Minister of Health in May, 1959 (Circular 9/59) informing them as to the extent of their new responsibilities under the Act, the need for expansion of the mental health service, and the form this expansion should take. It was made mandatory for local authorities to submit details of their existing services for the mentally ill and handicapped and the proposals of their plans for the period up to April, 1963.

These proposals have to be received by the Minister not later than April 1st, 1960, and this has involved a great deal of preparation work and discussion with other chief officers of the Authority, with the Manchester Regional Hospital Board psychiatric services and local general practitioners.

Briefly the main points of the Ministry Circular 9/59 are :—

Junior Training Centres. Authorities should now review the adequacy of their existing day centres in size and suitability and also consider the desirability of providing residential accommodation wherever the alternative would be admission to a hospital or inability to provide the advantages of training at all.

When a hostel is being established the need should be considered for making provision for children not otherwise resident to stay there for short periods in order to relieve their parents.

Reasonable transport services should also be provided where necessary for both junior and adult training centres.

Adult Training Centres. The provision of training for adults requires that sufficient centres should be established catering for a wide variation of individual need. They should be entirely separate from junior centres or, if on the same site, should have different entrances and separate accommodation. Though there are no rigid dividing lines three main adult groups may be recognised :—

- (1) those needing a considerable amount of supervision in order to perform the simplest operations ;
- (2) those who can be provided with useful occupations in a local authority “workshop” or “industrial centre” but cannot be trained for ordinary or sheltered employment elsewhere ; and
- (3) those needing training in work habits or who require some social stabilisation and will then be capable of entering ordinary or sheltered employment.

Of these, (2) will be the largest group for whom provision will need to be made. While all need not be catered for under the same roof, a comprehensive scheme will provide “diversionary” occupation for those for whom attendance at the centre is mainly a social activity, and, at the other extreme, training in a useful trade, which may be conducted at the centre itself or, more rarely, in ordinary or sheltered employment. As regards the latter aspects, and in the case of group (3) generally, close co-operation with Disablement Resettlement Officers of the Ministry of Labour is desirable.

Residential Accommodation for the Mentally Disordered. There will be a need for hostels or residential homes, for instance, for educationally sub-normal or maladjusted young people who are in employment but need (perhaps only temporarily) some care and guidance which cannot be sufficiently provided in their own homes ; for patients discharged from hospital who similarly need some support on re-entering community life ; for the elderly mentally infirm who do not need the services and resources of a hospital. The Commission did not recommend large homes or hostels, but had in mind 20 to 30 residents with a maximum not much over 50. The Commission also recognised that it would not be suitable to accommodate in one hostel all the different types of patients who might need residential care.

Home Visiting Service. The expansion of the community care services will involve an extension of the advisory services available to those living in their own homes. The local authority's mental welfare staff, on whom the main burden of home visiting will fall, comprise at present a very small number of psychiatric social workers, and other staff having various qualifications and experience. It is clear that psychiatric social workers will for long be scarce and where they are available they can exercise a wider influence by working with a team of less highly trained staff. Meanwhile authorities are urged to strengthen their staff as may be appropriate and practicable, and to give them the opportunity of expanding or bringing up to date their knowledge by attending suitable courses.

Social Centres. A successful form of support for mentally disordered adults, particularly after hospital treatment, is the provision of social centres or clubs where they meet together, often under the guidance of a psychiatric social worker or mental welfare officer, and acquire increased confidence in themselves and in their ability to make contacts with others.

Priorities. The Minister does not wish to suggest any precise order of priority in which the various needs should be met. Generally he would think it right that authorities should keep in the forefront the need for adequate provision for training children up to the age of 16. They will probably also wish to make early provision for persons now living in the community for whom hospital admission is not needed and can be avoided by the provision of suitable services.

As regards patients who are already in hospital, it would obviously be both undesirable and impracticable to seek to uproot all of those who have been settled there for many years. But there will be increasing numbers of patients, including elderly persons who, while they cannot for one reason or another be discharged to their own homes, could suitably be cared for in a local authority home after they have gained all the benefit they can from specialist hospital treatment. Consultation with the hospital authorities concerned will be required in assessing future needs for this type of accommodation.

Another point to be taken into account in planning the community mental health services is the growing number of old people in the population and the consequent likely increase in the number of mentally infirm.

Occupation Centre. The number of children on the register of the Occupation Centre at the end of the year was 39.

The Centre was open on 194 days and the attendances were as follows :—

<i>Days open</i>	<i>Attendances</i>		<i>Average daily attendance</i>
	<i>Over 16</i>	<i>Under 16</i>	
194	1977	4655	34.1

The Supervisor, Mrs. L. Higham, retired on health grounds in January, and for the major part of the year Mrs. L. Griffiths was in charge until the appointment, under the new establishment, of Mrs. L. Pryar, who took over her duties on the 1st September. Staffing difficulties throughout the year were eased by the part-time services of handicraft teacher and woodwork teacher who are made available by the local branch of the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children.

Transportation by ambulance was provided and 6297 children were brought to the Centre ; the remaining 335 were able to make their own way.

Meals and milk were provided as in previous years.

Periodic examination of the pupils is made by the Medical Officer, Dental Officers and Health Visitors make routine visits to the Centre.

The Creche continues to be utilized the two afternoons per week, and during the year the average attendance was 7.

The New Training Centre building was commenced this year, and although there have been delays, the building should be ready for use in early 1960. This particular centre is designed for 80 to 100 children, which should be adequate for the needs of the population. It is hoped to use the premises for associated activities which will include the weekly Friday evening meeting of the Training Centre Youth Club.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES

On the 31st December, 1959, there were 7 Nursing Homes registered within the borough. These Nursing Homes provided 148 beds for medical and surgical cases and 9 for maternity cases. During the year 12 inspections were made to these Homes.

	<i>No. of beds</i>	
	<i>Maternity</i>	<i>Others</i>
Ascot Nursing Home, 13 Luton Road	—	11
Convent of Our Lady of Wisdom, 575 Lytham Road ...	9	77
Northwood, 19 King Edward Avenue	—	12
Langdale, 67 Park Road	—	8
Inglehurst, 129 Newton Drive	—	14
Rocklands Nursing Home, 49 Bryan Road	—	14
St. Teresa's Nursing Home, 188 Norbreck Road ...	—	12
	9	148

Agencies for the Supply of Nurses.—Nurses' Acts, 1943-45. During the year there were no applications for registration under the above Acts.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

The Local Authority Medical Staff continued to carry out large numbers of medical examinations for various departments, and particularly during the season when seasonal workers are employed. These duties cause a large amount of work to the Department.

The following table gives some indication of the number and type of medical examinations carried out during the year :—

Entrance to the Corporation Superannuation Scheme ...	929
On behalf of other Local Authorities	9
Fitness for work	69
Routine medical examinations, Children's Act	19
Routine medical examinations, Adoption Act	26
Mental Deficiency Acts	30
Total	1082

WELFARE SERVICES—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

The Medical Officer of Health has certain functions under this Act, particularly with issuing certificates under Section 47 as amended by Sec. 1 (3) 1951 Act, in cases where it is necessary to move persons who are aged, infirm, living in insanitary conditions and not receiving adequate care and attention from others and unable to devote to themselves.

Legal action to remove a person from his home has never been a popular measure, either for the patient or for the local authority.

Because of the large proportion of old people in the population of the borough (approximately 1 in 5 over 65), the magnitude of the work of caring for the old throws a great strain on the local authority services.

Fortunately most of the advanced cases of neglect can usually be persuaded to go into hostels for old people or hospital, depending on the circumstances of the case.

The problems of caring for the elderly are likely to increase, and complicating factors are the smaller size of families and the inability of some relatives to care for their elderly kin either because of lack of accommodation or wish to go out to work themselves.

No. of orders in force on 1st January, 1959	...	...	7
No. of orders allowed to lapse	...	...	4
No. of orders in force on 31st December, 1959	...	...	5

Four new cases were dealt with compulsorily this year and details of each case are shown below :—

Case No. 1. Woman aged 74. Request from Welfare Department to visit on 16th April, 1959. She was bedridden and had been so for the past 14 years and was being looked after by an elderly lodger who himself had recently been a patient in hospital. The house was extremely dirty, insanitary and neglected, and the room in which the patient was confined was also the kitchen. It was obvious that she was not receiving adequate care and attention and there were no relatives prepared to look after her. She could not be persuaded to go to hospital and she was removed compulsorily to Wesham Park Hospital where she has remained since.

Case No. 2. Request from Welfare Department on 3rd December, 1959, to visit a man aged 71, living alone and not receiving adequate care and attention. This man had been confined to bed for four weeks suffering from general weakness, and was being attended by the district nurse. He was found to be in an extremely weak state, insanitary and not receiving adequate care and attention, and on refusing to move voluntarily was compulsorily removed to Rossall Hospital, where he subsequently made good progress and was later transferred to the "Highlands."

Case No. 3. Woman aged 85 living alone. Request received from the Welfare Department to visit on 17th July, 1959. This lady was almost completely blind and had been receiving the services of a home help and some assistance from her sister for a short period prior to her removal. Her clothing was extremely insanitary and it appeared that she needed medical treatment and that she was not receiving adequate care and nourishment. Her general practitioner had been refused permission to see her and she refused the services of a district nurse. No relatives were prepared to look after her and since she refused to go into hospital it was felt that the circumstances justified compulsory removal, consequently she was admitted to Rossall Hospital.

Case No. 4. Woman aged 85, living in lodgings in a council house. She had been under the observation of the duly authorised officers in 1958, when she was admitted to Victoria Hospital. In November, 1959, a request was made to the Health Department by the occupiers of the house where she was staying that the old lady was in need of care and attention. When the house was visited she was found lying on the floor, groaning, in an extremely dirty state and her bedding was insanitary. She was too feeble to stand up, and in view of her condition, her refusal to accept treatment voluntarily, and the presence of two young children in the house, an order was made for her to be removed to hospital. Unfortunately while being taken to hospital she slipped and fell and chipped a bone in her leg, but has since made good progress and has been transferred to the "Highlands."

Epileptics and Spastics. The care of adult epileptics and spastics over school leaving age are the responsibility of the Welfare Department.

The Director of Welfare Services informs me that in accordance with the scheme for the provision of welfare services for handicapped persons made under Section 29 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, a register of such persons has been compiled and at 31st December, 1959, there were nine adult epileptics and eight adult spastics included in the register.

Epileptics

At the commencement of 1959 there were eighteen epileptics maintained in epileptic colonies. During the year there were four admissions and three discharges, making nineteen maintained at 31st December, 1959.

Forty-four epileptics of school age are known to the department, and these, of whom 32 are Petit Mal cases, are attending ordinary schools.

Five epileptics of pre-school age are kept under observation by the Health Visitors during their routine visits.

Spastics

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total number of cases of school age kept under observation	13	6	19
Not severely affected—able to attend ordinary school ...	4	1	5
In Open Air School	3	2	5
Severely handicapped—at Special Residential Schools for physically handicapped children	1	2	3
At home under supervision (including those having Home Tuition)	3	1	4
At home, awaiting place in Residential School	1	—	1

Seven spastics of pre-school age are kept under observation by the Health Visitors of the Department.

Blind and Partially Sighted Persons. The Director of Welfare Services informs me that at 31st December, 1959, the total number on the register was as follows :—

<i>Blind Register</i>			<i>Partially Sighted Register</i>		
Male ...	185		Male ...	27	
Female ...	243		Female ...	61	
	<hr/> 428 <hr/>			<hr/> 88 <hr/>	

<i>Blind Children of School Age</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
At home (with other defects) having home tuition ...	1	—	1
At home	—	1	1

<i>Partially Sighted Children of School Age</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Attending ordinary schools under special supervision ...	8	2	10

Pre-School

Two partially sighted children are known to the department and are kept under observation during visits by Health Visitors.

Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons

	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
BLIND :				
(i) Number of cases registered as blind during the year ended 31st December, 1959, in respect of which Section F. of Forms B.D.8 recommends :—				
(a) No treatment	13	3	—	14
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical, optical or hospital supervision)	Med. — Surg. 5 Opt. — Hosp. 2	1 — 1 5	— — — —	5 5 — 4
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	Med. — Surg. 2 Opt. — Hosp. 2	1 1 — 4	— — — —	4 — — 4
(iii) Number of cases at (ii) above in which :				
(a) Vision improved	1	—	—	—
(b) Sight restored	—	—	—	—
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year	—	3	—	7
PARTIALLY SIGHTED :				
(i) Number of cases registered as partially sighted during the year ended 31st December, 1959, in respect of which Section F. of Forms B.D.8 recommends :—				
(a) No treatment	1	—	—	3
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical, optical or hospital supervision)	Med. — Surg. 4 Opt. — Hosp. 3	— — — —	— — — —	3 1 — 1
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	Med. — Surg. 1 Opt. — Hosp. 2	— — — —	— — — —	3 — — 1
(iii) Number of cases at (ii) above in which :				
(a) Vision improved	1	—	—	—
(b) Sight restored	—	—	—	—
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year	2	—	—	4

B. Ophthalmia Neonatorum

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	37
(ii) Number of cases in which :—	
(a) Vision lost	—
(b) Vision impaired	—
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year...	4

CREMATIONS

The Medical Officer of Health, his Deputy, and one Assistant Medical Officer of Health continued to act as medical referees for the authorisation of cremations under the Cremation Act. During the year 2,458 cremations were authorised at the Blackpool Crematorium, and of these 1,093 were in respect of Blackpool residents. This again shows a reduction of 86 and the decrease can only be accounted for by the building of new crematoria in the North West.

HEALTH EDUCATION

During the year health education has been brought to the attention of the public mainly through posters and informal talks. Publicity in the form of a variety of "eye-catching" posters and leaflets obtained from the Central Council for Health Education, to which this authority makes a financial contribution, pharmaceutical firms and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents were displayed at child welfare clinics.

Mothercraft lectures are given by midwives at the clinics and it is hoped shortly to show films to mothers on all aspects of infant care.

Probably the greatest single contribution in the sphere of health education which can be made to produce the most lasting effect on the greatest number of persons is the teaching of hygiene to the children in the schools, and it is here that

the field workers of the public health team have a vital part to play in the prevention of ill-health.

Practical experience shows that personal and individual contact with people is the best method of propagating health education.

BLACKPOOL HOME SAFETY COMMITTEE

For three days, during Safety Week, a decorated Float bearing the sign "Check that Fall," in which there was a display depicting a child falling out of a cot, travelled the town and was photographed outside the Town Hall when the Mayoress launched "Safety Week Campaign." Leaflets were distributed when the Display was stationed at strategic points throughout the town.

Owing to inclement weather the Display was transferred to a Corporation bus for the last three days, and approximately 5,000 leaflets were distributed. The Fire Service assisted the Committee continually throughout the Campaign.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936

PUBLIC HEALTH LONDON ACT, 1936

Public Swimming Baths

The Baths Superintendent has kindly furnished the following information :—

The Open Air Bath. Built 1923, maximum length 376 ft., maximum width 172 ft.; championship area 33 ft. x 75 ft.; capacity 1,600,000 galls.; spectators accommodation 5,000; source of water supply—pumped from the sea through the 900 ft. x 8 in. intake pipeline, in an effort to obtain selective water, into a 500,000 galls. settling tank. The water is allowed to settle for a pre-determined period of a minimum of 8 hours and is treated with a regulated dosage of chlorine, it is then filtered through 4 gravity-fed filters at a turn-over rate of approx. 8 hours.

Derby Bath. Main pool 165 ft. x 55 ft.; capacity 485,000 galls.; spectators accommodation 2,000; learners' pool 33 ft. x 33 ft.; capacity 17,000 galls.; source of water supply—pumped from the sea into two settling tanks 120,000 galls. capacity, prior to filtration; turn-over rate—main pool approx. 3 hours, learners' pool approx. 2 hours.

There are diving boards in the two above establishments of international standard type up to 10 metres.

Cocker Street Bath. 81 ft. x 24 ft.; capacity 60,000 galls.; source of water supply—from the Sea-Water Works, through our filtration plant; turn-over rate approx. 5 hours.

Lido Pool. 100 ft. x 40 ft.; capacity 135,000 galls.; source of water supply—town-main supply (fresh water); turn-over rate approx. 4½ hours.

Before entering the filters, in all the above establishments, the water is chemically treated with alumina and soda by means of open-type coagulation plants. The chlorine gas process admits of easy and accurate adjustment to meet the varying needs of the swimming pool, and we maintain the "Free Chlorine Content" to comply with the Ministry's standards for marginal chlorination, 0.2 p.p.m. to 0.5 p.p.m., to ensure accurate control.

A special feature of the swimming bath water circulation system at the Derby Bath is the multiple inlets and outlets water withdrawal and distributing arrangement, which ensures pure water over the whole of the area of the bath.

Colorimetric tests are taken four times per day at all establishments, other than peak periods when tests are taken more frequently. The units at present in use, in each case, are the B.D.H. Lovibond Comparators with the requisite chlorine and pH. disc indicators; ortho-tolidine and phenol red are used as the reagents.

Periodical bacteriological examinations of the water at each establishment is carried out under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health.

WATER SUPPLY

The Authority responsible for the water supply in Blackpool is the Fylde Water Board, and the Engineer of the Board has been good enough to furnish the following information.

Water supplied to Blackpool is collected at two sources, (a) from watersheds at Barnacre, and (b) at Stocks on the River Hodder, and is satisfactory both in quantity and quality. At both these head works, upland surface water is collected and stored in reservoirs. The watershed at Barnacre is free from human habitation and at Stocks the Fylde Water Board owns the watershed and controls all operations on it. At both sources the water is stained with peat and the treatment given includes the addition of aluminium sulphate for colour removal. After filtration, clear lime water is added to compensate acidity and to obviate plumbo-solvency. Finally the water is sterilised with chlorine. The pH of the filtered water as it leaves the filters is recorded continuously by Multilec pH Recorders. The combined alkalinity, acidity and colour is taken at least daily at various stages in the treatment.

Bacteriological analyses were made of water samples taken monthly from various points in the Borough and these indicates that all samples were satisfactory. Hereunder are copies of reports taken during the year.

	<i>Fylde Water Board Offices on— Hodder Supply</i>	<i>Private House North Shore Area on— Barnacre Supply</i>
Taken	9th Oct., 1959	12th Oct., 1959
Appearance	clear and colourless	clear and colourless
Odour	nil	nil
Reaction, pH	7.4	6.48
	—parts per million—	
Total solids	95	88
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	0.00	0.00
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0.00	0.00
Nitrogen as nitrites	negligible	negligible
Nitrogen as nitrates	1.0	1.0
Chlorides, as Cl	12	13
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27° C.	0.9	0.7
Carbonate Hardness	34	26
Non-carbonate Hardness	23	20
Alkalinity	34	26
Free Carbon dioxide	less than 10	20
pHs	8.16	6.53
Free Chlorine	nil	nil
Calcium, as Ca	18.8	13.2
Magnesium, as Mg	2.4	3.12
Sulphate, as SO ₄	24.7	18.1
Carbonate, as Co ₃	20.4	15.6
Chloride, as Cl	12	13
Nitrate, as NO ₃	4.4	4.4
Fluorine, as F	less than 0.05	less than 0.05
Iron, as Fe	negligible	negligible
Poisonous metals	nil	nil
Manganese, as Mn	0.37	0.1
Potassium, as K	0.7	0.8
Sodium, as Na	5.0	6.0

During the year bacteriological analyses of 45 samples of water were taken in Blackpool, with the following results :—

<i>Total number of samples taken</i>	<i>Average number of colonies growing on yeastral agar in 2 days at 37° C. per 1 ml. water</i>	<i>Average number of colonies growing on yeastral agar in 3 days at 22° C. per 1 ml. water</i>
45	less than 1	2

Number of coli aerogenes organisms/100 mils water—NIL.

All samples examined could be aproved as safe and satisfactory for drinking purposes.

There are 72,359 houses within the Borough and, with the exception of one, all have a piped supply of water. The population supplied, based on the Registrar General's estimate, is 143,600.

From the middle of January until the middle of October the year 1959 was particularly dry. Nevertheless, the Fylde Water Board managed to maintain full supplies of water to its area other than the restriction of the use of hosepipes during the period from September 19th to December 18th, 1959.

The worst part of the drought came at the end, namely during the 2.6 months from the beginning of August to the 18th Ocotber. During that period the rainfall was only 5% of the average for the same period. It is quite possible that the drought of 1959 will go down in Waterworks history as one of the classical droughts.

SEWERAGE OF THE BOROUGH

Within the Borough area there are 72,359 water closets, and a large number of pail closets. No record is maintained of pail closets on show grounds or in temporary conveniences. A number of cesspools exist in the outlying parts of the town, particularly in the Marton Moss area. During the year 18 owners of properties which had cesspools or septic tanks took advantage of the Council's assisted scheme, whereby a contribution of £10 is made, and had their drains connected to main sewers. The Director of Public Cleansing reports that 211 pail closets and 15 cesspools are emptied regularly by his department.

(a) Works of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal carried out in 1959 :—

1. Construction of 210 lin. yds. of 36" dia. sewer in Montpelier Avenue, and 430 lin. yds. of 12" and 15" dia. sewers in Beaufort Avenue.
2. Construction of 60 lin. yds. of 9' 0" x 5' 0" reinforced concrete box culvert at Rigby Road.
3. Commencement of 430 lin. yds. of 30" dia. sewer from Crawford Avenue to All Hallows Road.
4. Commencement of Eastern Area Scheme, 3,000 lin. yds. of 42" x 108" dia. sewers in tunnel.
5. Commencement of 680 lin. yds. of 21" and 24" dia. sewers in Devonshire Road and Waverley Avenue.

(b) Works of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal proposed to be carried out in 1960 :—

1. Completion of 430 lin. yds. of 30" dia. sewer from Crawford Avenue to All Hallows Road.

2. Continuation of Eastern Area Scheme, 3,000 lin. yds. of 42" to 108" dia. sewers in tunnel.
3. Completion of 680 lin. yds. of 21" and 24" dia. sewer in Devonshire Road and Waverley Avenue.
4. Construction of 700 lin. yds. of 36" and 42" dia. sewer in Mossom Lane.
5. Conversion to Automatic Working of the Lennox Gate Pumping Station.
6. Installation of standby generating plant at Manchester Square.
7. Construction of sewers for the development of the Cleveleys Hydro area.

(c) Proposed Future Works of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal :—

1. Provision of sewers for future housing development.
2. Provision of sewers to relieve local flooding.
3. Continuation to completion of Eastern Area Scheme.
4. Reconstruction of Sewer Outfalls at Manchester Square.
5. Reconstruction of Manchester Square Pumping Station.
6. Construction of 5 miles of new trunk sewers 30" to 108" dia. to the Central Area.
7. Construction of 2,000 lin. yds. of 12" to 27" dia. sewers for the second stage of Marton Moss drainage.

REFUSE COLLECTION—1959

This is carried out by the Cleansing Department of the Corporation.

I am informed by the Director of Public Cleansing that the amount of refuse collected showed an increase on the previous year. This was undoubtedly due to the remarkably warm, dry summer which resulted in an increased number of visitors to the town.

For eight months of the year the refuse received at the Refuse Disposal Works was restricted to certain trade wastes. During this time an extensive modernisation of the works was carried out.

The amount of refuse dealt with at the Works was 13,312 tons, whilst 53,818 tons were tipped away, and 1,540 tons of night soil were removed.

Approximately 100 tons of sewage were removed from sumps, etc., at the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Show.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH

This section of the Annual Report, and the following sections dealing with Housing, Rodent Control and Disinfestation, General Food Supply and Prosecutions, give details of the variety of functions undertaken by the Chief Public Health Inspector and his staff.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE—STATISTICS

Complaints Received :

Verbal	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3079
Written	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1113

Visits and Inspections during Year :

Ash Receptacles :

Satisfactory	27
Unsatisfactory	142
Reinspections under Notice	163
Number of Galvanised Bins provided	679

Food and Drugs Act :

Butchers' Shops	271
Cafes and Snackbars	208
Dairies and Milk Shops under Milk and Dairies Regulations	395
Fish Frying Shops	233
Hotels and Licensed Premises—Boarding Houses	2240
Ice Cream Premises	424
Food Manufacturing Premises	158
Food Inspections and Food Stalls	3943

Miscellaneous :

Abattoirs	152
Bakehouses	124
Basements	4
Cinemas, Dance Halls, Theatres, etc.	29
Common Lodging Houses... ..	84
Drainage Survey	159
Dwelling Houses (Housing Act, 1957)	6
Dwelling Houses (Public Health Act, 1936)	114
Dwelling Houses (Rent Act, 1957)	17
Dwelling Houses re : Housing Improvement Grants	109
Exhumations	2
Factories	501
Infectious Diseases (including Food Poisoning and Dysentery)	2353
Land and Camp Sites	317
Municipal Tenancy Applicants	656
Nuisances (first inspections)	4443
Nuisances (re-inspections under notice)	7139
Offensive Trades	34
Piggeries	24
Public Conveniences	8
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act	9
Refuse Tips	6
Roadways, Footpaths, Back Streets and Passages	106
Sand and Foreshore	2
Schools and Churches	1
Shops (Shops Act, 1950)	1276
Slum Clearance	126
Smoke Abatement	157
Smoke Observations	44
Stables and Manure Heaps	99
Swimming Baths	3
Temporary Structures	168
Town Planning and Building Bye-laws	160
Watercourses and Ponds	232
Water Supply	106
Work in progress	549
Unclassified	270
Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957	—

Number of Houses where Sanitary Defects were Found	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
Number of Houses where Sanitary Defects were Remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	116
Defects remedied as per verbal notice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Defects remedied as per preliminary notice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Defects remedied as per statutory notice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Number of Houses where Notices were Served for the Abatement of Nuisances :									
Verbal notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Preliminary notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	105
Statutory notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	104
House Drains Tested :									
New Houses :									
Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	556
Unsatisfactory on first test	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Rendered satisfactory after first test	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Old Houses :									
First test—satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
First test—unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Tested during relaying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Final Test satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Drains :									
Relaid, disconnected and ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Repaired, unblocked and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1215
New gullies fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Soil pipes repaired or fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Waterclosets :									
New w.c's fixed in lieu of privies, pail closets and defective w.c's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Unblocked	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Flushing fittings repaired and water provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
New pails provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Waste Pipes :									
New slop waste pipes fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
New rainwater downpipes fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Rainwater pipes and roof gutters repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Slop waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Water service pipes repaired, etc....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Bath, lavatory, slopsink and rainwater pipes disconnected over gullies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous :									
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Animals removed from improper situations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Back yards cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Backyards reformed with flags, concrete or asphalt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Backyards repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Courts or passages cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Courts or passages reformed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Fire ranges re-set, repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

Food stores provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Manholes, gullies, back streets, etc., reported to Borough Surveyor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Manholes, gullies, back streets, etc., reported to Cleansing Department	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Manure receptacles abolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Name and address of landlord inserted in rent book	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
New damp proof course fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
New floor laid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
New slop sinks fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Premises cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Roof repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Rooms ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Various repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Watereourses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

Common Lodging Houses

There are two registered Common Lodging Houses in the Borough. The total accommodation provided by these establishments is as follows :—

13 Eden Street	...	...	160 adults and 1 child
12 Seed Street	...	...	56 adults and 1 child

Both houses are for males only, there being no accommodation of this type for females in the town.

During the year 84 visits were made to the two houses. Both these buildings are over 80 years old and it is only by constant inspection and heavy repairs that the premises can be kept in a hygienic state.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The Local Authority, after careful consideration, again decided not to declare any parts of the Borough to be a smoke-controlled area at present, and again deferred action for a further twelve months. Therefore, the work carried out by the Department during the year was mainly in connection with Section 1 of the Clean Air Act, 1956 (prohibition of dark smoke from chimneys), Section 3 (applications for prior approval in the installation of new furnaces), Section 5 (minimising grit emission from furnaces), Section 10 (height of chimneys), Section 16 (abatement of smoke nuisances).

It was recorded in the previous year's report that the sum of £150,000 was spent during that year in replacing old and unsatisfactory plant with modern installations which, if carefully maintained and operated, would not contravene the provisions of the Clean Air Act.

During this year the Specialist Smoke Inspector carried out a further check survey, as a result of which, quite a number of premises have been installed with modern equipment. The spirit of co-operation between owners of premises and the Local Authority which occurred during last year has been maintained, and the Department is most appreciative.

During the year successful proceedings were instituted in respect of four contraventions of Section 1 of the Clean Air Act, i.e., emission of dark smoke, and in respect of Section 5, i.e., emission of grit.

It is pleasing to report that in this year no complaints were received regarding the emission of smoke from the locomotive-type boilers used in connection with the steam sterilization of soil in greenhouses in the Marton Moss Area. This is

no doubt due to the fact that after receiving advice from the Inspectors, the owners of the furnaces have now fitted the plants with mechanical draught, and smokeless fuels are now being used.

The Borough Surveyor, through the Highways Committee, is responsible for Section 10 of the Clean Air Act which deals with the height of chimneys in the proposed erection and extension of buildings, and there is excellent liaison between the Borough Surveyor's Department and the Public Health Department in respect of this matter, and all plans are submitted to the Chief Public Health Inspector for his observations before approval is given.

A total number of 15 applications was received by the Local Authority for the installation of furnaces in accordance with Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, and all these were approved, subject, in some cases, to modifications required by the Department.

SANITARY CONDITIONS IN PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

During the year two cinemas have been closed and the remaining places of public entertainment are classified as follows :—

Cinemas	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Cinemas (Also used for variety, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Variety, Etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Ballrooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Ice Drome	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

All these premises were inspected prior to the commencement of the holiday season, particular attention being paid to the Dressing Room accommodation, sanitary accommodation and washing facilities both for patrons and artistes, ventilation, etc.

The inspections showed that the facilities provided were of a high standard and in no case was any action necessary by the Department. There is no doubt that the managers of these places of entertainment considered that to provide suitable and adequate facilities for the staff, artistes and patrons is good business.

FACTORIES

501 inspections were made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year, and in the course of these inspections 22 contraventions of the Factories Act were noted. In 11 instances action was taken informally and it was necessary in 11 cases for written notices to be served on the occupier of the premises. No legal proceedings had to be instituted. In so far as this department is aware, there are no Blackpool firms employing outworkers either within or without the Borough. As a result of notifications from other authorities 7 inspections of outworkers' premises were made and in all cases the nature of the work was the making of wearing apparel and conditions were satisfactory.

It is interesting to note that the majority of the contraventions were in respect of the lack of intervening ventilated spaces between the W.C. compartment and workshop. This is, no doubt, due to the managements' varied interpretations of the Sanitary Accommodation Regulations of the Factories Act.

The following matters were referred to H.M. Inspector of Factories—9 new factories, but 10 factories were discontinued during the year.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 TO 1959

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

Part I of the Act

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities...	59	46	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	841	444	8	1
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	2	11	2	—
Total ...	902	501	10	1

2. Cases in which **Defects** were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	—	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) :					
(a) Insufficient	4	3	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	18	10	1	5	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	22	13	1	5	—

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel	Making, etc. ...	7	—	—	—	—
	Cleaning and Washing ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	7	—	—	—	—	—

Factories on Register (Section 8 (3)) at Year End

Trade	Mechanical Power	No Mechanical Power
Making or repair of wearing apparel... ..	109	26
Bakehouses	166	2
Preparation of other foods and drinks ...	105	1
Building trades	79	5
Furniture making, etc.	24	4
Conveyances and engineering	164	4
Photography, printing and bookbinding ...	54	6
Other trades	125	11
Laundries	17	—
Total Number of Factories on Register ...	843	59

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There is no change in the position with regard to the offensive trades existing within the Borough, which are as follows :—

Tripe Boilers	1
Gut Scrapers	2
Rag and Bone Depots ...	4
Fat Melter	1

All the above are located within the confines of the Public Slaughterhouse, off Talbot Road, with the exception of the Rag and Bone Dealers' Depot and Fat Rendering Factory at Bispham. Bones are collected direct from butchers' shops and taken to the factory for conversion into fertilisers.

Last year, the Department received numerous complaints from the occupiers of dwelling-houses in the vicinity of the latter premises from nuisances arising from offensive smells which were being emitted from the processing. The construction of a large brick four-compartment chamber where the fumes were washed

and deodorised did not appear to be entirely satisfactory. Further modifications however, have been carried out with the result that no serious nuisance was in evidence during the year.

CAMPS, CARAVANS AND WOODEN STRUCTURES

The authorised camping sites in the Borough are as follows :—

- Preston New Road District—(a) about 10 vans ; (b) about 20 vans.
- Highfield Road District (permanent site)—94 vans.
- Squires Gate—about 22 vans.
- Stanley Road—(about 40 vans).
- Common Edge Road—varying from 25 to 65 vans.
- Whalley Villa, Whalley Lane—20 vans.
- Newton Hall Holiday Camp, Staining Road—the larger portion of this caravan site is in the Fylde Rural District Council area, but that portion in the Blackpool Borough is accommodating approximately 100 vans.

From the foregoing figures it will be seen that the number of sites and caravans is relatively small when compared to the numbers at other seaside and rural districts, and this can be accounted for as follows :—

- (1) Lack of available land.
- (2) Local Improvement Act powers.
- (3) Strict supervision by the Department's officers in dealing with unauthorised placing of caravans on land within the Borough.

Fewer applications have been received for the siting of individual caravans for the purpose of permanent habitation, and it would appear that this method of housing is not as popular as it used to be when the housing position was more acute.

CLEARANCE AREAS

The position at the end of 1959 was as follows :—

Area	Date of Representation	Confirmation by Ministry	No. of Dwellings removed vacated or demolished	No. still occupied	No. of families
Abbey Road. No. 2 ...	9.2.38	30.6.59	1	1	1 (2 persons)
Bonny Street, etc. No. 1	1.4.57	22.4.58	13 (demolished)	Nil	Nil
St. Walburgas Road ...	1.4.57	8.1.58	7 (demolished)	Nil	Nil

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

A. Houses Demolished

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
In Clearance Areas.			
Houses unfit for human habitation	41	25	12
Not in Clearance Areas—			
As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	5	2	2
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	—	13	5
B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED :			
Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	2	9	9
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	—	4	1

C. Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied

	By Owner	By Local Authority
After informal action by local authority	66	—
After formal notice under Public Health Acts	46	4

SHOPS

1254 inspections and 20 re-inspections have been made to ensure that the provisions of Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950, are being complied with. No statutory notices were served, but 3 warning letters were sent. The undermentioned table gives details of classified defects ascertained by the public health inspectors and defects remedied during the year.

CLASSIFIED DEFECTS				
	Found		Repaired or Remedied	
	Nil	Defective	Provided	Repaired
Sanitary conveniences	1	3	—	3
Washing facilities	—	1	—	—
Lighting	—	—	—	—
Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Temperature	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	4	—	3

4 businesses were discontinued during the year.

RENT ACT, 1957

The following applications, etc., were dealt with under the above Act.

No. of Applications received	17
No. of Certificates issued	5
No. of Certificates refused	—
No. of Undertakings received	11
No. of Certificates revoked	3

Overcrowding

The extent of overcrowding in the Borough is unknown with any degree of accuracy, and only a complete survey would present the Local Authority with a true picture of the position. When serious cases of overcrowding are discovered, the facts in every instance are reported to the Related Health Services Committee, and in those cases where the occupiers are eligible for a municipal tenancy the Estates and Housing Committee are most sympathetic.

ALLOCATION OF MUNICIPAL TENANCIES

There has been no change in the "Points Scheme" approved by the Town Council in 1958 for the allocation of all Municipal dwellings except flats and bungalows for aged couples, widows and spinsters, the details of which, published below, were kindly furnished by the Borough Treasurer.

Points will be awarded as stated :

SECTION	POINTS AWARDED
A. Period since date of application : (not prior to date of marriage)	30 points to every application made in 1945 and 2 points less for each year following 1945.
B. Period of residence in Blackpool.	1939 or earlier : 25 points 1950 : 23 points and 1 point less for each year following 1940. Points to be given to applicant OR his wife. Points for applicants with broken residence to be decided by the Committee.
C. Number of children :	2 points for each child irrespective of age.
D. Bedroom deficiency :	5 points to be given to a man, wife and child occupying one bedroom irrespective of the age of the child. 5 additional points to be given for each deficient bedroom.
E. Special hardship or circumstance :	1 to 15 points added for anything not provided for under Section A to D.
(i) Pulmonary tuberculosis, asthma, bronchitis, physical, disability.	} To be assessed by the Medical Officer of Health on evidence provided by a medical certificate.
(ii) Age or physical infirmity of relations with whom accommodation is shared.	
(iii) Sub-standard accommodation	} Points to be awarded by specific recommendation of the Estates and Housing Committee.
(iv) Separation of man and wife due to lack of accommodation.	
(v) High rentals being paid by applicants in order to enjoy reasonable accommodation and where such rents are above their normal means.	

Residential Qualification

An application may be made by any person who resides or is employed in the area of the local authority but no application will be considered until it has been registered for at least twelve months.

In order to be eligible for a tenancy, an applicant or his wife must either :

- (a) reside within the area of the local authority and have resided within that area for at least the past twelve months and/or,
- (b) be employed in the area of the local authority and have been so employed for at least the past twelve months (the husband's employment only will count for this purpose).

No points will be awarded to any applicant until the employment or residential qualification has been attained.

The various types of municipal houses erected since re-commencement of building since the last war :—

Permanent—1 bedroom ...	604
Permanent—2 bedrooms ...	640
Permanent—3 bedrooms ...	1920
Permanent—4 bedrooms ...	106
Temporary bungalows ...	343

429 families were re-housed during the year and as at 31st December, 1959, the number of persons on the waiting list for tenancy of municipal houses was 2582.

NOISE NUISANCES

Complaints of this type of nuisance are still causing some concern to the Local Authority, and the majority of complaints received are in respect of machinery in factory premises and the installation of large refrigerators. This Local Authority, as far as possible, invoke the somewhat limited powers of a local act, and there is no doubt that improvements have been made in many cases. Nevertheless, the position generally is far from satisfactory and is likely to remain so unless greater powers are given to the Local Authority.

Another type of noise nuisance which has caused some concern is that caused by noisy animals, and as a result, the Local Authority has complained to the Ministry to operate bye-laws dealing with this type of nuisance. It is expected that these powers will be available in the new year.

RODENT CONTROL

The continuous search of land and premises for rodent infestation during the year entailed 1,722 visits, summarised as follows :—

Business Premises ...	753
Dwelling Houses ...	624
Open Spaces ...	345

Of this number 112 premises were found to be infested. Orders to carry out the necessary disinfestation were received in respect of these premises, and the work was duly carried out satisfactorily. It is pleasing to note that the cordial relationship which has existed between the department and the general public continues, and the helpful co-operation of the Lancashire Agricultural Executive Committee, the Nationalised Industries and the Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Infestation Division) was much appreciated.

Surface Infestation

The complaints received numbered 649. Of this number 74 premises were found, upon investigation, to be clear after test baiting, 575 premises comprising 176 business premises and 399 dwelling houses received disinfestation treatment. Premises so treated included hospitals, clinics, hotels, theatres, cinemas, factories, warehouses and shops. In addition, the abattoir, refuse tips, refuse disposal works, land, watercourses, pumping stations and other premises vested in the Local Authority, received periodic inspection and treatment where necessary. The total number of surface infestation visits made during the year was 2,939.

Rodent Control in Sewers

The following approved sewer treatments were carried out during the year :—

Class	No. of Manholes	Commenced	Completed	Bait Base	Poison
Maintenance ...	241	16. 3.59	23. 3.59	Sausage Rusk	Zinc Phosphide
10% Test ...	272	7.10.59	15.10.59	Bread Mash	—
Maintenance ...	446	16.10.59	3.11.59	Pinhead Meal	Warfarin 5

A Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Infestation Division) was present at each stage of the above treatments, and certified that the correct procedure was adopted throughout.

Summary of Visits during 1959

Continuous Search	...	1,722
Surface Infestations	...	2,939
Sewer Treatments	...	2,616
Total	...	<u>7,277</u>

Other Infestations

During the period under review, the pest control staff have carried out treatments for moles, voles and rabbits on land vested in the Local Authority.

The whole of Lancashire has been declared a "Rabbit Clearance Area" in accordance with the provisions of the Pests Act, 1954, where it is laid down that it is the duty of every occupier of land to destroy wild rabbits living on or resorting to his land, and the department is enforcing the requirements of this Order.

BIRD PEST ELIMINATION

The experimental work on pigeon repellents undertaken in conjunction with a private firm was discontinued in the summer of 1959, when it became apparent that the work offered no permanent solution to the problems involved.

It has not been possible to carry out any stupefaction experiments in this area as the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Infestation Division) has not yet authorised Local Authorities to use stupefactive for this work. The Ministry have, however, been carrying out experimental work in a number of Local Authorities' districts but have come upon difficulties which have delayed their issuing authority to carry out work of this nature. The department's officers have, therefore, had to resort to the normal methods of elimination, which has mainly been trapping, but after some initial success they found that "trap shyness" developed amongst the pigeons, which resulted in the work not being entirely satisfactory when trying to reduce the number of pigeons.

Late night visits to roosting places proved more effective, but it must be pointed out that this type of work is dangerous to the pest operatives who do the work on high ladders in total darkness and in almost inaccessible places, in an endeavour to remove the pigeons and their eggs.

Reports from other Local Authorities show that the bird pest nuisance is widespread, and the difficulties encountered by them are similar to our own, and most of these Authorities now appear to be resorting to the shooting of the pigeons as the best method of solving the problem.

INSECT INFESTATION

Treatment and/or advice has been given as a result of the following number of complaints, which were classified as follows :—

	<i>1st Visit</i>	<i>Revisits</i>	<i>Total Visits</i>
Bugs, Lice and Fleas ...	566	284	850
Cockroaches ...	234	286	520
Steamflies ...	14	16	30
Ants ...	75	60	135
Moths ...	18	14	32
Wood Borers ...	118	59	177
Flies ...	90	36	126
Food Pests ...	78	44	122
Other Pests ...	133	63	196
	<hr/> 1,326	<hr/> 862	<hr/> 2,188

It will be noted from the above summary that during the year 566 inspections were carried out for vermin (bugs, lice and fleas). This is a high figure and is an increase of 258 visits above the average for the past 10 years (1949-1959). This increase may give the impression that vermin infestation of premises has increased, but it is considered that this is not the case, but is mainly due to the public becoming more educated and hygiene conscious than in the preceding years. The department's activities are becoming more widely known and as a result more people are seeking the advice of the department's officers. Another feature is that architects, surveyors, estate agents and builders are requesting the services of the pestology section, particularly when properties are to be sold or are the subject of alteration. As a result of these enquiries, 69 properties were disinfested.

During the year 32 males and 3 females were disinfested for lice, etc., under Section 85 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and all treatments were carried out at the Local Authority's cleansing station in the Devonshire Road Hospital.

The number of insect/mites sent to the department for identification during the year was 178.

STAFF ENGAGED IN PEST CONTROL

The staff engaged in Pest Control comprises the Pestologist and three Rodent/Insect Operatives. An operator engaged during the year under review attended a three-day course of instruction held by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Infestation Division) at Penwortham.

NORTH WESTERN REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE ON RODENT CONTROL

During the year there have been two meetings of the North Western Representative Committee on Rodent Control, the first on the 26th February, 1959, held at Preston, and the second on the 27th August, 1959, was held at the Town Hall, Blackpool.

These meetings ensure uniformity of administration and develop the spirit of co-operation between all adjacent Authorities.

RODENT CONTROL SUMMARY 1959

MONTH	CONTINUOUS SEARCH ANALYSIS OF PREMISES EXAMINED (SURVEY)				SURFACE INFESTATION—TYPE OF					TYPE OF PREMISES TREATED			RODENT CONTROL OF SEWERS		
	Business Premises	Dwelling Houses	Open spaces and Agricultural Premises	No. of Visits	No. of complaints of Infestations discovered	Premises proved clear by Test Baiting	No. of premises treated with poison	For Rats	For Mice	Business Premises	Dwelling Houses	No. of Visits	Annual 10% Test	Maintenance Treatment	Bait and Poison Used
Jan.	179	74	84	337	61	11	50	5	45	20	30	215		16. 3.59 to 23. 3.59	Sausage rusk and Zinc Phosphide
Feb.	74	37	59	170	59	14	45	6	39	16	29	233			
Mar.	52	28	21	101	38	2	36	5	31	15	21	219			
April	66	102	33	201	53	15	38	4	34	14	24	269			
May	45	60	9	114	41	3	38	7	31	12	26	234			
June	77	43	11	131	35	3	32	5	27	8	24	162			
July	49	62	45	156	40	10	30	2	28	11	19	159			
Aug.	32	55	17	104	43	2	41	7	34	17	24	206	7.10.59 to 15.10.59	16.10.59 to 5.11.59	Breadmash Pinhead meal and Warfarin 5
Sept.	57	51	24	132	50	3	47	7	40	12	35	212			
Oct.	41	36	10	87	76	3	73	10	63	20	53	298			
Nov.	29	47	13	89	76	1	75	8	67	14	61	358			
Dec.	52	29	19	100	77	7	70	9	61	17	53	374			
	753	624	345	1,722	649	74	575	75	500	176	399	2,939			

VERMIN AND INSECT SUMMARY 1959

Month	No. of Complaints	Cock-roaches		Steam Flies		Ants		Moths		Wood Boring Insects		Flies		Vermin : Bugs, Lice, Fleas		Food Pests		Other Pests		Insects Brought to Office	Visits		TOTAL VISITS
		Ist	Rev.	Ist	Rev.	Ist	Rev.	Ist	Rev.	Ist	Rev.	Ist	Rev.	Ist	Rev.	Ist	Rev.	Ist	Rev.		Ist	Rev.	
January	97	24	38	—	1	3	4	1	1	6	2	—	—	39	1	—	—	24	9	—	97	56	153
February	76	11	9	—	—	2	2	—	1	3	1	—	—	47	15	—	—	13	8	4	76	36	112
March	102	16	11	3	3	7	7	—	—	16	4	2	2	50	26	1	1	7	2	7	102	56	158
April	137	37	41	—	—	14	6	2	1	11	6	—	—	63	36	—	—	10	6	9	137	96	233
May	131	20	21	2	2	19	24	2	2	6	3	1	1	70	44	3	2	8	—	13	131	99	230
June	133	18	26	3	3	7	3	—	—	21	17	21	7	49	19	6	4	8	2	26	133	81	214
July	157	17	35	1	2	7	2	2	1	29	16	32	8	46	28	11	8	12	6	33	157	106	263
August	140	12	23	—	—	13	9	6	5	12	4	17	5	57	38	13	10	10	4	38	140	98	238
September	131	15	20	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	3	12	9	40	21	39	17	18	15	29	131	89	220
October	71	17	9	1	2	—	—	2	1	3	1	4	4	27	16	4	2	13	8	11	71	43	114
November	94	28	29	1	1	1	—	—	1	5	2	1	—	50	27	1	—	7	1	6	94	61	155
December	57	19	24	1	—	1	2	2	—	3	—	—	—	28	13	—	—	3	2	2	57	41	98
TOTALS	1326	234	286	14	16	75	60	18	14	118	59	90	36	566	284	78	44	133	63	178	1326	862	2188

HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS

The Blackpool Corporation Act of 1958 provides that persons shall not carry on the business of a Hairdressers or Barbers in the Borough unless both premises and persons are registered by the Corporation. It also provides that the Council may make Bye-laws for the purpose of securing (a) cleanliness of premises registered under this Section, and the instruments, towels, materials and equipment used in the premises, (b) the cleanliness of persons employed in the premises in regard to both themselves and their clothing.

The appropriate Bye-laws were provided by the Ministry, and during the year a full survey of all Hairdressers and Barbers establishments in the Borough was commenced.

GENERAL FOOD SUPPLY

Meat Inspection

The only slaughtering facilities in the Borough are those provided at the Public Abattoir, which is owned by the Local Authority, whose officers are responsible for the administration, supervision and for meat inspection. The centralisation of all slaughtering in this one building ensures that 100 per cent. meat inspection is carried out immediately after slaughter. This work is augmented by systematic inspection by specialist Meat and Food Inspectors of all butchers' shops and wholesalers.

The throughput of units this year has exceeded the 100 thousand mark, and during the peak killing periods of the year, that is during the summer months, the slaughterhalls are overtaxed and there is insufficient hanging space and lairage accommodation.

Various schemes to improve the conditions and to ensure full compliance with the regulations, prepared by the Borough Surveyor, were submitted to the Related Health Services Committee, but none of these were agreed to, and the Borough Surveyor was requested to prepare preliminary schemes of establishments and costs for the provision of a new Abattoir.

The total number of animals slaughtered at the public abattoir includes a large number of animals which go to augment supplies of the surrounding districts and the Local Authority are now receiving a contribution towards the cost of this meat inspection from the Government. The value of this grant to the Borough for the financial year 1958 was £390.

The undermentioned tables show (a) the number of animals which have been slaughtered during the last 17 years, and (b) quantities of meat condemned and reason for condemnation.

Year	Cows	Heifers	Bullocks	Bulls	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
1941	2301	2433	2998	187	5034	48261	4192	65406
1942	2109	2751	3895	181	8081	62171	1144	80332
1943	2532	2299	3758	183	10444	48843	696	68755
1944	2678	2138	2435	170	9544	45627	691	63283
1945	2837	2686	4462	192	10764	40450	1258	62649
1946	4075	2391	4968	154	11671	54015	607	77881
1947	3224	2273	4093	108	7929	24932	290	42849
1948	4075	1938	3397	129	7589	36015	550	53693
1949	4610	2230	2691	204	6202	34276	711	50924
1950	5606	4127	3249	303	7257	36593	2032	59167
1951	5361	5119	3376	294	7408	34885	4248	60661
1952	3749	4546	2889	175	7477	38212	7663	64711
1953	5719	3205	3164	213	5198	46161	7493	71153
1954	3972	4883	3021	118	3019	59369	15750	90132
1955	2126	4917	4249	39	1358	47851	18087	78627
1956	1946	4416	6810	29	1989	59115	17044	91349
1957	2239	4209	7213	25	1713	64211	17360	97733
1958	3136	3553	6352	25	1034	58144	19746	91990
1959	2180	2338	7299	21	809	80230	19090	111967

Meat Condemned

1st January, 1959 to 31st December, 1959

Abscessed	12,139½	Brought forward ...	103,046
Actinomycosis	328	Melanosis	44
Actinobacillosis	540	Moribund	2,924
Anaemia	416	Muscular Degeneration ...	65
Arthritic	2,487	Necrosis	20
Atrophy	5	Nephritis	2,239
Bone Taint	235	Not Dehaired	84
Bruised	1,735	Oedema	385
Cadavers	507	Parasites	18,420
C. Bovis	42	Parturition	121
Congestive	6,393	Pericarditis	1,566
Decomposition	482	Pleurisy	224
Diamonds	10	Pneumonia	128
Dropsy	542	Pyaemia	956
Emaciation	1,365	Sarcoma	118
Erysipelas	282	Septic	8,790
Fevered	4,388	Telangiectasis	2,708
Fluke	66,532	T.B.	49,043
Fractured	54½	Tumours	414
Immature	225	Unsound	5,704
Jaundice	640	Uraemia	70
Joint Ill	758	Urticaria	220
Mastitis	2,940	Xanthosis	138
<hr/> Carried forward ...		103,046	<hr/> 197,427 <hr/>

Slaughterhouses Act, 1954

The Local Authority's resolution under Section 4 (2) of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1954, that no private slaughterhouse licence will be renewed or granted in Blackpool in the future, is still in force.

Cysticercus Bovis

The department is continuing its special technique in the examination of carcasses for the presence of *Cysticercus Bovis*, and it will be seen from the under-mentioned table that the number of infected cattle remained at a low level. This position is most encouraging but there has been no relaxation in the inspection of carcasses as it is still felt that in the interests of public health this work should continue.

Incidence of *Cysticercus Bovis* in Animals Slaughtered at Blackpool Abattoirs during 1959

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Slaughtered	1059	879	931	789	903	887	1086	1112	1161	1104	977	950	11838
Infested	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	2	1	1	2	12
Per Cent.	.09	—	—	.13	.11	—	.19	.09	.18	.09	.10	.21	.10

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	9658	2180	809	80230	19090	—
Number inspected	9658	2180	809	80230	19090	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :						
Whole carcases condemned	4	17	38	69	81	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6480	1499	31	3062	1401	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	67.1	69.5	8.5	3.9	7.8	—
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcases condemned	5	7	2	—	5	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	551	248	3	—	470	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5.7	11.7	.6	—	2.5	—
Cysticercosis :						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	9	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	9	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Sale of Horse Flesh

There are no shops in the town selling horse flesh for human consumption.

Disposal of Condemned Meat and Other Food

There has been no change in the department's arrangement for the disposal of condemned meat and other foods.

All meat unfit for human consumption which has been condemned following inspection at the Public Slaughterhouse is heavily stained with green dye before being removed from the premises by a reputable firm of manufacturers whose works are situate within the Borough boundary. At these works all meat is converted into fertiliser and none of it is sold as pet animal food, nor is there any leakage through other channels whereby the public health is endangered. In respect of all other foods condemned in shops or warehouses, the department accepts full responsibility for its disposal by collecting the condemned items by van and conveying them to the refuse disposal works where they are destroyed by incineration.

Complete records of meat and other foods condemned are maintained and the Council is satisfied that the above arrangements at the Public Slaughterhouse and elsewhere provide adequate protection for the general public.

Diseases of Animals Act (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

Although the Police Department is responsible for the licensing of premises under the above Act, the Department's Officers report on all applications and recommendations are forwarded to the Chief Constable. No visits were made in this connection during the year.

List of Foodstuffs Condemned During 1959

During the past twelve months, the undermentioned foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption. This is in addition to the meat condemned at the Public Slaughterhouse :—

	Units	Pounds	Bags/Boxes	Tins/Jars
Biscuits	3	288	1	125
Meat (tinned)	7	5,206	—	1,272
Meat (fresh)	81	169	—	8
Bacon and Ham	1	6,122	—	736
Fish (fresh)	6	342	6	7
Fish (tinned)	15	183	—	334
Shellfish	—	112	2	2
Fruit (fresh)	—	67	72	4
Fruit (tinned)	—	5,631	—	2,956
Vegetables (fresh)	—	751	—	252
Vegetable (tinned)	43	3,927	1	1,762
Milk (tinned)	13	—	—	431
Cheese	3	14	—	—
Eggs	2	37	1	—
Jams and Marmalade	—	202	—	111
Soup	—	152	1	122
Poultry	2	42	—	10
Puddings	—	103	—	98
Animal Foods	44	68	2	98
Flour	1	11	—	—
Miscellaneous	146	350	3	97
	367	23,777	169	8,425

Foreign Matter in Food

Once again there has been an increase in the number of complaints received in respect of foreign matter in food, and although this may give an impression of lowering standards in hygiene with regard to manufacture and packaging of food, this is not so. The increase is undoubtedly due to the public becoming more aware of food hygiene, and that any action they may take to bring to the notice of the department any deterioration in the high standards now expected in food handling, is appreciated.

Warning letters to manufacturers, etc., have had the desired effect, and in many instances representatives of the firms in question have arranged to meet departmental officials to discuss the complaint.

The undermentioned is a list of complaints which the department investigated during the year :—

- Foreign matter in dried fruit.
- „ „ „ loaf of bread.
- „ „ „ rock confectionery.
- „ „ „ packet of potato crisps.
- Glass particles in bottled milk.
- Foreign matter in milk.
- Contaminated fruit drink.
- Foreign matter in packet of jelly.
- „ „ „ tin of peaches.
- „ „ „ piece of sultana cake.
- „ „ „ tin of lunch tongues.
- Splinter of wood in currants.
- Small stones in pre-packed lentils.

Stalls on Sands

Periodic visits were made to ensure that there was compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, and the Local Authority Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and it is pleasing to report that stall owners are maintaining a good standard of hygiene and the stalls are kept in accordance with the Department's requirements.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

This most important part of the department's activities is again proceeding satisfactorily and with reasonable success.

Persuasion, rather than prosecution, has always been the policy of the department, and in most cases the public co-operated exceedingly well.

As previously stated, it is estimated that there are approximately 10,000 to 11,000 food premises in the Borough, which come within the purview of the Regulations.

During the year the number of visits made to premises which came under the Regulations was 2,228. The number of re-visits made was 3,011.

Since the inception of the Regulations the number of full inspections carried out is 5,871, and the number of re-visits made since the work commenced is 8,911.

A large number of the premises inspected now comply in all respects with the Regulations, but the Officers have found some difficulty in securing compliance with Regulation 25 which requires the provision to be made for the storage of food at temperatures of not less than 145° F. or below 50° F.

The Local Authority are appreciative of the co-operation of the various trades and organisations in this very important work.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLINGS MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Fourteen premises are registered under Section 2 of the Act, i.e., premises where filling materials are used. No premises are registered under either Section 6 or 7, i.e., premises where rag flock is manufactured or stored. Six samples were taken during the year, all of which have been satisfactory.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

Only minor contraventions were found during the year, but these were immediately rectified on representation by the department.

Food Premises

The following is a list of shops in the Borough where food is exposed for sale :—

Butchers' meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	229
Fish and Greengrocery	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
Grocery, provisions and confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	...	523
Restaurants, cafés, tea rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	229
Sweet confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	...	169
Tripe shops...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Oyster stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Fish and Chip Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	145

Milk Supply

The following is a list of milk purveyors in the Borough :—

Milk Stores (large depots)	...	...	...	...	7
Milk shops selling by retail (loose milk)	...	...	...	...	—
Dairymen's premises (not including farmers)	...	...	...	...	20
Distributors of bottled milk from retail shops	...	...	...	...	349
Dairymen using registered dairies other than own premises	...	...	...	...	23

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1954

The following licences under the above regulations were in operation at the end of the year 1959 :—

Dealers' Licences :

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	102
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	325
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	269

Supplementary Licences :

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	7
Pasteurised	9
Sterilised	4

Licensed Bottling Establishments :

Pasteurised	2
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Chemical Analysis of Milk

The number of milk samples taken during the year was 102, and of these 86 proved satisfactory.

Methylene Blue Test

Grade of Milk	Outside the Borough		Inside the Borough	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
T.T.	S0	7	4	—
T.T. Pasteurised	S0	5 Invalid	—	—
Pasteurised... ..	S3	7 Invalid	37	3 Invalid

Phosphatase Test

Grade of Milk	Outside the Borough		Inside the Borough	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
T.T. (Pasteurised)	SS	—	—	—
Pasteurised... ..	60	—	39	1

Animal Inoculation Test

Grade of Milk	Outside the Borough		Inside the Borough	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
T.T.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pasteurised... ..				
T.T. (Pasteurised)				

Turbidity Test

Grade of Milk	Outside the Borough		Inside the Borough	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Sterilised	60	—	—	—

MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM

1. Introduction

In last year's report reference was made to Parliamentary consideration being given to new standards for the composition of Ice Creams, as a result of the popularity in that year of the Dairy Ice Creams, which were being sold at higher prices.

On the 27th April, 1959, the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Regulations, 1959, came into operation, and these proved to be of valuable assistance to the department's officers when taking samples for chemical analysis.

Quoting from last year's report, "a less tasteful feature was the poor weather and general complaints of a shrinking season," whereas in 1959 when we were told, we had never had it so good and the weather was well nigh perfect, the surge of business was good, starting earlier and finishing later.

Slightly fewer samples of this commodity were taken during the year for chemical and bacteriological examination, and this could be related to the increased pressure of work on the Chief Meat and Food Inspector who was engaged on other vital activities, and to the reduction in the number of manufacturers. Nevertheless, representative samples were taken of all ice cream manufactured in the area.

2. Registration of Manufacturers and Purveyors

During 1959 one of the largest manufacturers ceased the production of ice cream in order to sell a nationally known product, as did three of the smaller producers. One manufacturer was added to the list, the cold mix method being used.

The total number of manufacturers is now 24. The retail selling points numbered well over 500.

3. Premises

The structural condition of the premises used in the manufacture of ice cream was satisfactory and accommodation in all cases was adequate. Retail selling points operated satisfactorily during the year.

4. Equipment

During the year, the equipment used in the manufacture of ice cream was satisfactory and was maintained in compliance with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1959. The Ice Cream trade as a whole is a most progressive one, and new and better equipment is installed as and when this becomes available on the market.

5. Sampling

For the purpose of analysis 30 samples were taken for chemical and 55 for bacteriological examination.

6. Chemical

(a) In 1959 the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Regulations, 1959, came into operation, and these revoked the earlier Order of 1953.

The standards now lay down a minimum of 5% fat and 7½% solids other than fat for ordinary ice cream, whilst dairy ice cream must contain not less than 5% milk fat and 7½% milk solids other than fat. Parev (Kosher) ice cream must contain not less than 10% fat and no milk fat or any other derivatives of milk.

No ice cream of any description must contain any artificial sweetener.

All the samples taken in the Borough during 1959 satisfied the requirements of these Regulations.

(b) A comparative classification of the fat content in the samples for the three years 1959, 1958 and 1957, is shown on the following tables.

Classification	Fat Content %	1957	1958	1959
Over 3	Below 5	—	—	—
Over 4	Below 6	—	—	—
Over 5	Below 7	4	5	1
Over 6	Below 8	3	—	5
Over 7	Below 9	2	3	—
Over 8	Below 10	4	7	3
Over 9		3	2	5
Over 10		12	15	16
		28	32	30

Samples taken on the Sands gave the following fat percentages in relation to the respective manufacturers coded A to H.

Manufacturer	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	G.	H.
Per cent Fat ...	11.8	9.9	10.3	9.9	9.0	9.9	10.1	8.1

Under paragraph 6 (a) it is noted that in relation to the fat content the legally prescribed minimum is 5%. However, by a special condition inserted in licences to trade on the sands, it is required that ice cream sold from stalls on the sands must contain not less than 8% of fat.

7. Bacteriological

The following table shows the grading of the 55 samples submitted for examination by the methylene blue test :—

Class of Mix.	Provisional Grade				Totals
	1	2	3	4	
Heat Treated ...	36	2	1	2	41
Cold ...	7	—	2	2	11
Total ...	43	2	3	4	52

Grades 1 and 2

1957	70.9
1958	83.75
1959	86.54

Grades 3 and 4

1957	29.1
1958	16.25
1959	13.46

Three results were invalid as the temperature of the overnight incubation bath had risen above the permitted limit.

Summary

For two years in succession one of our manufacturers has been second in the Ice Cream Alliance Horizontal Freezer class and in 1958 was placed first in the Dairy Ice Cream Class 3, when he won the British Dairy Farmers' Perpetual Silver Challenge Trophy and Silver Medal.

In conclusion, we are pleased to report that for the third successive year every sample of ice cream satisfied the legal standards of quality. Bacteriological testing relating to hygienic production methods again showed improvement, which reflects most creditably on the trade.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Informal			Nature of Sample	Formal		
Genuine	Not Genuine	Ref. No.		Genuine	Not Genuine	Ref. No.
1	—	—	Almonds (Ground)	1	—	—
1	—	—	Almond Flavour	—	—	—
1	—	—	Almond Paste	—	1	324
—	—	—	Baking Powder	1	—	—
1	—	—	Barley	1	—	—
—	—	—	Beans (Butter)	1	—	—
—	—	—	Bicarbonate of Soda	2	—	—
1	—	—	Blackcurrants	—	—	—
1	—	—	Blackcurrant Cordial	—	—	—
1	—	—	Boric Acid (Powdered)	—	—	—
1	—	—	Bread Crumbs (Cooking)	—	—	—
—	—	—	Butter	12	—	—
2	—	—	Cake Mixture	—	—	—
—	—	—	Cake Mixture (Sweetened)	1	—	—
1	—	—	Camphorated Oil	—	—	—
1	—	—	Cheese (Buttered)	1	—	—
—	—	—	Cheese (Processed)	1	—	—
—	—	—	Cheese (Spread)	1	—	—
1	—	—	Cheese (Spread, with Shrimps)	—	—	—
2	—	—	Cherries (Glaze)	—	—	—
1	—	—	Chicken Breasts	—	—	—
1	—	—	Chicken Spread	—	—	—
—	—	—	Cinamon (Ground)	1	—	—
1	—	—	Cochineal	—	—	—
1	—	—	Cockles in Malt Vinegar	—	—	—
1	—	—	Coconut (Sweetened)	—	—	—
1	—	—	Coffee	6	—	—
—	—	—	Condiment (Non-brewed)	1	—	—
1	—	—	Confectionery (Cake)	1	—	—
9	—	—	Confectionery (Sweets)	3	1	187
—	—	—	Cooking Fat	2	—	—
1	—	—	Cream	—	—	—
—	—	—	Cream of Tartar	2	—	—
—	1	87	Currants	3	—	—
—	—	—	Curry Powder	1	—	—
1	—	—	Dates	—	—	—
—	—	—	Dates (Stoneless)	1	—	—
1	—	—	Famel Syrup	—	—	—
1	—	—	Fernico Tablets	—	—	—
—	1	75	Ferrous Gluconate Tablets	—	—	—
1	—	—	Fish Cakes	—	—	—
1	—	—	Fish Cakes, Salmon	—	—	—
—	1	—	Flour (Self-raising)	2	—	—
1	—	—	Fruit (Mixed, Dried)	1	—	—
—	—	—	Gelatine	1	—	—
1	—	—	Gin	—	—	—
—	—	—	Glucose	—	—	—
—	—	—	Glycerin	1	—	—
—	—	—	Gravy Browning	1	—	—
1	—	—	Ham and Chicken Roll	—	—	—
1	—	—	Hot Pot (Lancashire)	—	—	—
12	—	—	Ice-cream	18	—	—
2	—	—	Jam	—	—	—
3	—	—	Jelly (Table)	—	—	—
—	—	—	Lard	8	—	—
2	—	—	Lemon Juice	—	—	—
1	—	—	Lentils	—	—	—
1	—	—	Lentils (Split, Red)	—	1	101
1	1	321	Luncheon Meat (Pork)	—	—	—
3	—	—	Margarine	9	—	—
—	—	—	Margarine (10% Butter)	1	—	—
1	—	—	Marmalade	—	—	—
1	—	—	Marzipan (Almond)	1	—	—
2	—	—	Meat Paste	1	1	18
1	—	—	Metatone	—	—	—
57	11	119, 123, 124, 126, 238, 304, 305, 306, 307, 346, 347	Milk	29	5	48, 49, 53, 144, 174
1	—	—	Milk (Condensed)	—	—	—
1	—	—	Milk Shake Powder	—	—	—
1	—	—	Milk Shake Syrup	—	—	—
—	—	—	Mint	1	—	—
1	—	—	Mint Sauce (Sweetened)	—	—	—
1	—	—	Mushrooms (with Savory Rice)	—	—	—
2	—	—	Mussels	—	—	—
—	—	—	Nutmeg (Ground)	1	—	—
1	—	—	Nut Mix	—	—	—
—	—	—	Olive Oil	1	—	—
1	—	—	Onions (Pickled)	—	—	—
1	—	—	Pancake Mix	—	—	—
1	—	—	Paraffin (Liquid)	—	—	—
—	1	331	Peas (Dried)	—	1	34
2	—	—	Peel (Cut, Mixed)	1	—	—
—	—	—	Pepper (White)	3	—	—
1	—	—	Pie (Pork)	—	—	—
1	—	—	Pie Filling (Lemon)	—	—	—

Informal			Nature of Sample	Formal		
Genuine	Not Genuine	Ref. No.		Genuine	Not Genuine	Ref. No.
—	—	—	Prunes... ..	1	—	—
1	—	—	Pudding	—	—	—
—	—	—	Raisins	1	—	—
1	—	—	Raspberry Vinegar in Pure Olive Oil	—	—	—
1	—	—	Rice	—	—	—
1	—	—	Rice (Ground)	—	—	—
—	—	—	Rock	—	—	—
—	—	—	Rum	1	—	—
1	—	—	Sage	1	—	—
1	1	39	Sago	—	—	—
1	—	—	Salmon (with Butter)	—	—	—
—	—	—	Salmon Spread	1	—	—
1	—	—	Sardines (in Oil)	—	—	—
1	—	—	Sardines (in Tomato Sauce)	—	—	—
2	—	—	Sauce	—	—	—
1	1	279	Sausage (Beef)	—	—	—
1	—	—	Sausage (Pork)	1	1	249
—	—	—	Savoury Ducks	—	—	—
—	—	—	Semolina	1	—	—
—	1	85	Soda Bread Mix (Irish)	—	1	102
6	—	—	Soft Drink	—	—	—
1	—	—	Soup	—	—	—
1	—	—	Soup (Chicken Noodle)	—	—	—
—	—	—	Soup (Mushroom)	1	—	—
—	—	—	Soup Powder	1	—	—
—	—	—	Soup Powder (Romany)	1	—	—
—	—	—	Stuffing (Sage and Onion)	2	—	—
1	—	—	Suet (Beef)	—	—	—
1	—	—	Sugar	—	—	—
—	—	—	Sultanas	1	—	—
1	—	—	Tapioca	—	—	—
—	—	—	Thyme... ..	1	—	—
—	—	—	Tonic Water (Quinine)	1	—	—
—	—	—	Vinegar	1	—	—
2	—	—	Vinegar (Malt)	8	—	—
—	—	—	Whisky	2	—	—
1	—	—	Yeast Tablets (Tonic)	—	—	—
1	—	—	Yorkshire Pudding Mix	1	—	—
173	19	—		151	12	—

**Details of action taken and results of analysis in respect of samples
reported by the Public Analyst as being unsatisfactory**

Sample No.

18 Meat Paste (Formal)

The sample was meat paste deficient in meat to the extent of 18.2%. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee, and the Town Clerk was requested to send a warning letter to the manufacturer.

34 Dried Peas (Formal)

The sample was infested with insect webbing and eggs. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee. The remainder of the stock was voluntarily surrendered and a warning letter from the Town Clerk was sent to the vendor.

39 Sago (Informal)

The sample consisted of Tapioca. The product was sold in unlabelled packets and the mistake was due to confusion between two products by the shopkeeper. The product is to be labelled at the time of packing in future.

Sample No.

- 48 **Milk (Formal)**
The sample was sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 2.3%, but the deficiency did not appear to be due to the presence of extraneous water. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee. The attention of the firm which bottled the milk has been drawn to the matter.
- 49 **Milk T.T. (Formal)**
The sample was sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1%, but the deficiency was not due to the presence of extraneous water. Action taken as for sample No. 48.
- 53 **Milk T.T. (Formal)**
The sample was sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1%, but the deficiency was not due to the presence of extraneous water. Action taken as for sample No. 48.
- 61 **Ferrous Gluconate Tablets (Informal)**
The sample did not conform to the requirements of the disintegrating test of the B.P. Manufacturer informed by the Medical Officer of Health.
- 85 **Irish Soda Bread Mix (Informal)**
The sample was of flour and raising agents, the ingredients of which were not declared on the label. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee. Formal sample taken. See sample No. 102.
- 87 **Currants (Informal)**
The sample contained a wooden splinter approximately one inch long. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee. The retailer has now changed over to selling only branded pre-packed currants.
- 102 **Irish Soda Bread Mix (Formal)**
The sample was of flour and raising agents, the ingredients of which were not declared on the label. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee and the Town Clerk was requested to communicate with the wholesalers and manufacturers.
- 119 **Milk (Informal)**
The sample was sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1%. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee. Formal sample taken—satisfactory.
- 123 **Milk (Informal)**
The sample was sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 3.5%. Action taken as for sample No. 119.
- 124 **Milk (Informal)**
The sample was sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 3.5%. Action taken as for sample No. 119.
- 126 **Milk (Informal)**
The sample was sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1%. Action taken as for sample No. 119.

144 Milk (Formal)

The sample was deficient in fat to the extent of 10%. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee.

174 Milk (Formal)

The sample was deficient in fat to the extent of 3.3%. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee. The farmer was interviewed personally concerning this and the above sample, and the Town Clerk was requested to send a warning letter.

187 Mint Rock (Formal)

The sample was sugar confectionery containing a dye not permitted by the Colouring Matter in Food Regulations, 1957. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee, and the Town Clerk was requested to send a warning letter to the Manufacturer. The Chief Public Health Inspector has also drawn the attention of all local manufacturers to the requirements of the Regulations.

238 Milk (Informal)

The sample was of milk deficient in fat to the extent of 5.0%, and deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.8%. These deficiencies were not caused by the presence of extraneous water. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee.

249 Pork Sausage (Formal)

The sample was pork sausage containing sulphur dioxide preservative, the presence of which was not declared. Reported to the Related Health Service Committee, and the Town Clerk was requested to send a warning letter to the vendor.

279 Beef Sausage (Informal)

The sample was beef sausage containing sulphur dioxide preservative, the presence of which was not declared. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee, and the Town Clerk was requested to send a warning letter to the vendor.

304 Milk (Informal)

The sample was sub-standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 2.3%. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee. It was considered that the deficiency was not caused by the presence of extraneous water.

305 Milk (Informal)

The sample was sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1%. Action taken as for Sample No. 304.

306 Milk (Informal)

The sample was sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1%. Action taken as for sample No. 304.

307 Milk (Informal)

The sample was sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1%. Action taken as for Sample No. 304.

321 Pork Luncheon Meat (Informal)

The sample was pork luncheon meat deficient in meat to the extent of 17.5%. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee. In view of the terms of the recent agreement between the Food Manufacturers' Federation and the Association of Public Analysts regarding

Sample No.

the meat content of pork luncheon meat, it was decided that a further sample of the same manufacture should be taken at a later date as it is likely that old stocks may still exist from prior to the agreement.

324 Almond Paste with Jamaica Rum (Formal)

The sample consisted of paste made from extracted nuts and containing only 1.5% of nut oil. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee, and the Town Clerk was requested to send a warning letter to the vendor.

331 Dried Peas (Informal)

The sample contained 5.3% of broken and mouldy peas showing signs of insect infestation before harvesting. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee, and the Town Clerk was requested to send warning letters to the retailers and the packers.

346 Milk (Informal)

The sample was sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1%. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee. The County Milk Advisory Officer was informed of the matter.

347 Milk (Informal)

The sample was sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 3.5%. Action taken as for sample No. 346.

Not
No.

Flour (Informal)

The flour was contaminated with mouse excrement. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee, and the Town Clerk was authorised to institute legal proceedings.

Total Number of Samples Taken

(a) under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955	...	...	355
Genuine	...	...	324
Not genuine	...	...	31
(b) under the Pharmacy and Medicine Act, 1941	...	...	6
Genuine	...	...	5
Not genuine	...	...	1

Analyst's remuneration :—Fees in accordance with the Joint Negotiating Committee's Scale for Public Analysts.

Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941

Informal			Nature of Sample	Formal		
Genuine	Not Genuine	Ref. No.		Genuine	Not Genuine	Ref. No.
1	—	—	Ruaka Digestive Syrup ...	—	—	—
1	—	—	Aluminium Phosphate Gel....	—	—	—
1	—	—	Becantyl ...	—	—	—
1	—	—	Fever Mixture ...	—	—	—
—	1	6	Licoricine ...	—	—	—
1	—	—	Bromo Valerianate ...	—	—	—
5	1	—		—	—	—

Sample No.

6 Licoricine (Informal)

The sample was deficient in Chloroform in comparison with the quantity declared. The matter was referred to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926

During the year 11 samples were taken and the results received from the Public Analyst are set out below:—

Informal			Nature of Sample	Formal		
Genuine	Not Genuine	Ref. No.		Genuine	Not Genuine	Ref. No.
|	—	—	Battery Layers' Mash	—	—	—
|	—	—	Battery Pellets	—	—	—
|	—	—	Chick Starter Mash	—	—	—
|	—	—	Fish Manure	—	—	—
|	—	—	Growmore Fertiliser	—	—	—
|	—	—	Liquid Blood Manure	—	—	—
|	—	—	Liquid Fertiliser	—	—	—
—	—	—	Nitrate of Soda ... ..	|	—	—
|	—	—	Raw Bone Meal	—	—	—
—	—	—	Sulphate of Ammonia ... ..	—	|	—
|	—	—	Solufeed	—	—	—
9	—	—		|	|	—

Action taken in respect of the sample which did not comply with the requirements of the Act is detailed below :—

5 Sulphate of Ammonia (Formal)

The sample contained 0.6% more nitrogen than the amount declared. The excess of nitrogen is 0.3% outside the limits of variation permitted by the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Regulations. Reported to the Related Health Services Committee.

PROSECUTIONS DURING 1959

<i>Month</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Contravention</i>
March	Public Health Act, 1936, Section 83.	Dirty condition of house. Case adjourned for 4 weeks.
July	Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 6.	Mis-leading advertisement. Defendant fined £10 0s. 0d.
July	Clean Air Act, 1956, Section 1.	Emission of Black Smoke. Defendants fined £2 0s. 0d.
August	Clean Air Act, 1956, Section 1.	Emission of Black Smoke. Defendants fined £5 0s. 0d.
September	Clean Air Act, 1956, Section 1.	Defendants fined £2 0s. 0d.
September	Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 2.	Waterproof dressing in loaf of bread. Defendants fined £5 0s. 0d.
November	Public Health Act, 1936, Section 83.	Dirty House. Defendant fined 10/-.
November	Clean Air Act, 1956, Section 5.	Emission of Grit. Defendant fined £5 0s. 0d.
December	Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, Regulations 6, 23 and 24.	Dirty condition of kitchen, cookers, cooking utensils, shelves, etc., Animal on premises. Defendants fined £10 0s. 0d.
December	Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, Regulation 6.	Dirty conditions of bakehouse and baking trays, etc. Defendants fined £10 0s. 0d.
December	Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, Regulation 6.	Dirty condition of crockery in use in a café. Defendants fined £10 0s 0d.
December	Food Hygiene Regulations, Regulations 6, 14, 23.	Dirty condition of kitchen. Dirty condition of kitchen furniture. Dirty condition of yard, w.c. compartment. Defendants fined £9 0s. 0d.
December	Clean Air Act, 1956, Section 1.	Emission of dark smoke. Defendants fined £2 0s. 0d.
December	Food and Drugs Act, 1955.	Plant-like growth in bottle of milk. Defendants fined £1 0s. 0d.

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